

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 44 : ISSUE 48

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Campus shocked after Navy's upset

By SAM STRYKER
News Writer

For the second straight time the Notre Dame football team lost at home to Navy, and students predictably took the loss hard, especially with the possibility of an at-large BCS bid all but evaporating.

"It was possibly one of the most depressing games I have ever seen," senior Alex Tomala said.

Graduate student David Moors said he — like many students — was not expecting such a close game, or a Notre Dame loss.

"I thought we could run the table," he said.

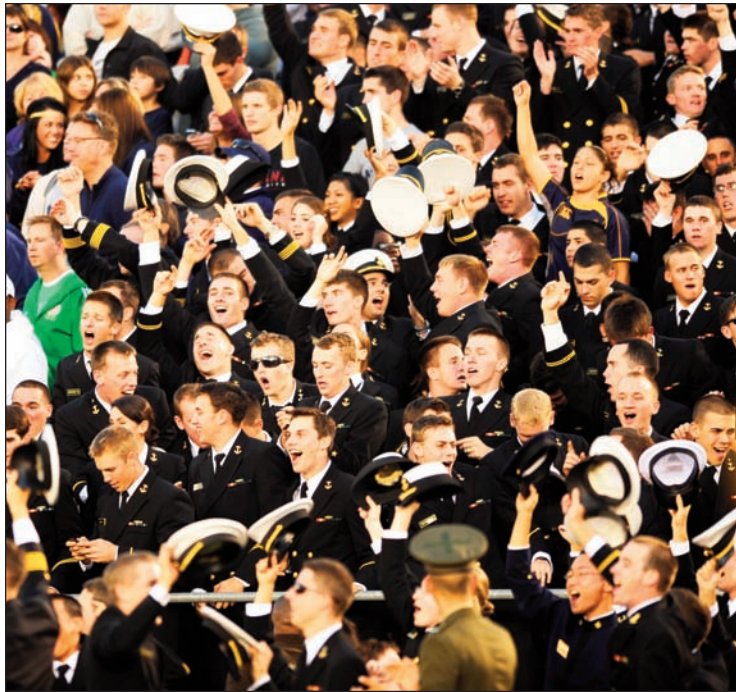
While this was not the first home loss for the Irish this year, students were shocked a ranked Notre Dame team fell to unranked Navy.

"It's harder losing to a team that you are closer to in skill as opposed to the USC game," freshman Jaimie Morrison said.

Other students said they felt disappointment that a seemingly overmatched Navy team was able to defeat Notre Dame.

"I was really excited for my first Navy game at home but

see LOSS/page 6



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Naval Academy cadets that made the trip to South Bend celebrate as they watch the Midshipmen defeat the Irish Saturday.

Mendoza business competition offers \$40K

By CASEY KENNY
News Writer

The Gigot Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at the Mendoza College of Business has invited students to submit business plans and compete for a total of \$40,000 in prize money as part of its annual Business Plan Competition.

"The Business Plan Competition is one of Mendoza's biggest events of the year," Karen Slaggert, the Gigot Center program manager, said. "It is a great educational opportunity to test entrepreneurial skills and have some fun."

The Competition features two categories, according to the Gigot Center's Web site. The McCloskey Business Plan Competition "focuses on ventures that have not yet been launched or are in the earliest stages of launch," while the Social Venture Plan Competition "fosters a spirit of collaboration between business and social ventures — business plans with a social and/or environmental mission/purpose."

These two categories of the Competition are in their

see MENDOZA/page 6

GreeND stands still to advocate change



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Members of GreeND pose outside the Hesburgh Library Saturday to help raise awareness about environmental issues. Participants collected over 500 petition signatures.

By JILLIAN STICHCOMB
News Writer

While most students were beginning to tailgate for the Navy game, members of GreeND gathered by Stonehenge early Saturday morning for a "Climate Change Flash Mob," where students posed in various positions for five minutes to help raise awareness about environmental issues.

"The goal of the event was to make people more

see GREEND/page 3

Former ACE interns tackle new challenges

By NORA KENNEY
News Writer

Last year, as seniors, five Notre Dame students worked as interns for the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program, appearing at recruitment events and communicating with peers about the program.

This year, they are each still part of the ACE program — but their job descriptions, and everyday lives, have taken on some big changes.

The mission of the ACE program is to offer college graduates the opportunity to serve as full-time teachers in under-resourced

Catholic schools across the United States. So this year, rather than waking up to go to class and stop by the ACE office to work, the former interns wake up to face a classroom full of students.

"Living ACE's mission of bringing energy and life to an under-resourced Catholic school has been full of difficulty, heartache, and joy," Kevin Veselik, who is teaching fifth grade in Harlingen, Tex., said. "It has been one of the most challenging and one of the best experiences of my life."

Julie Garcia, who is teaching second grade in Prairie Village, Kan., said being a teacher is

see ACE/page 3

Navy formal returns after hiatus

SGA sponsors dance for Belles and Midshipmen after game

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

For the first time since 2002, the women of Saint Mary's hosted the men of the Naval Academy at a Student Government Association (SGA) sponsored Navy—Saint Mary's formal.

The dance was originally held in order to allow the Saint Mary's students to meet new people, however, the ball became a tradition after several consecutive years.

The Navy—Saint Mary's formal was traditionally held each year when Navy came to Notre Dame to play football and was



Photo courtesy of Teresa Cristarella

Saint Mary's first year Fatima Farfan smiles while standing next to two cadets from the Naval Academy Saturday.

see DANCE/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Postponing
panic

Throughout the course of the past few weeks, I've found that I have become more and more tense. I have no time to relax, and I can often be seen running around campus like a chicken with it's head cut off. My lack of time for stems from my overindulgence in a variety of activities that keep me bouncing back and forth around campus like an erratic ping-pong ball. Not to mention the fact that I have 18 credit hours on top of all that. Homework, therefore, takes a back-seat. The stack of homework that I am behind on is beginning to resemble the Sears Tower. As my books keep piling in the corner of my room, I am scurrying from one event to the next, in hopes that maybe around midnight I can finally catch my breath.



Alicia Smith

News
Production
Editor

Well midnight comes and goes and here I am in the wee hours of the morning trying to catch up on that never-ending accumulation of homework. And finally, I hit the point where I just don't care anymore. That's when the procrastination starts.

I begin by logging onto my computer. It starts out innocently enough. I open a book and Microsoft Word and start to type my homework, the keys clacking rhythmically. My mind begins to form a beat to the keyboard, and I open iTunes. It all goes downhill from there.

After iTunes is open, I begin to surf the web. I check out Facebook, stalk a few people whose lives I find particularly interesting, and read everyone's status updates. I check my e-mail multiple times, and then I turn to Google. There I surf the gaming Web sites in hope to find a new addiction to satisfy my craving for a little fun. After playing a few rounds of Yahtzee, Bloons Tower Defense Four or some other game online, I move to another Web site, a new personal favorite, Sporcle.

I open a few quizzes and play for a while, until I find one that leads me to my next endeavor. For instance, last week I found a Sporcle quiz that was about The Oregon Trail, a popular video game when I was about 12. My interest peaks, and I rapidly return to Google in hopes that someone out there has posted this fabulous game online for free. I find it, and begin to play. After investing over an hour of my time and traveling over halfway across America, I discover that all of my companions and I have gotten stuck in a snowstorm and I've become a cannibal and then die of starvation. Game over.

After the frustrations have ensued, I return to my homework. The relaxation is over. Though I'm putting off my homework by wasting time online, I've found that the small amount of time I spend doing something completely worthless has saved my sanity. Without my procrastination, my tension would consume me, and I'd find myself in a state of total and complete panic. Instead, I'm postponing my worries until tomorrow, when I'll catch up on that homework because, after all, I can always do it later.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DID YOU THINK ABOUT THE LOSS AGAINST NAVY?



Brian Solaba
sophomore
Keenan

"It was a huge let-down. I thought we were going to come back in the end."



Gabi Hernandez
freshman
McGlinn

"It was sad. I felt bad for all the parents who came, but it was a beautiful day."



Kate Buczek
freshman
Pangborn

"It was disappointing, but a good effort."



Lisa Hartung
sophomore
Welsh Family

"I thought it was really depressing and the players were really uninspiring."



Josh Renberg
sophomore
Duncan

"At least we didn't lose against Syracuse."



Joan Gary
freshman
McGlinn

"Ouch!"

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com



GRACE KENESEY/The Observer

Leprechaun Dan Collins runs on the side line and raises spirits at the Notre Dame versus Navy home game on Saturday. Navy went on to beat Notre Dame.

IN BRIEF

The play, *The Sugar Wife*, will be performed from Nov. 10 to 15 in the Decio Mainstage Theatre in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at performingarts.nd.edu or 574-631-2800.

A lecture, "Nuclear Disarmament, Terrorism and Global Security," will take place Tuesday from 4:15 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium. The lecture is free and will feature retired Army Major General William Burns.

A seminar, "Atomic Obsession," will take place November 12 from 4 to 6 p.m. in 119 O'Shaughnessy Hall. The lecture is free and will feature Professor John Mueller, the Woody Hayes Chair of National Security Studies, Mershon Center, at Ohio State University.

Baraka Bouts 2009 will be held Nov. 12 starting at 6 p.m. at the Joyce Center Fieldhouse, Gate 3. The entrance fee is \$5 at the door and all proceeds benefit the Holy Cross Missions in East Africa.

A Veteran's Day ceremony will be held Nov. 11 at 5 p.m. at Clarke Memorial Fountain. The ceremony follows a 24-hour vigil at the fountain beginning 5 p.m. on November 10. Retired U.S. Air Force Colonel Howard Hanson will speak.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu

OFFBEAT

Woman passes written driving test on 950th try

SEOUL, South Korea — A woman in South Korea who tried to pass the written exam for a driver's license with near-daily attempts since April 2005 has finally succeeded on her 950th time. The aspiring driver spent more than 5 million won (\$4,200) in application fees, but until now had failed to score the minimum 60 out of a possible 100 points needed to get behind the wheel for a driving test.

Cha Sa-soon, 68, finally passed the written exam with a score of 60 on

Wednesday, said Choi Young-chul, a police official at the drivers' license agency in Jeonju, 130 miles (210 kilometers) south of Seoul.

Ore. man charged with DUI after intoxicated 911 call

SALEM, Ore. — Oregon police have charged a man with drunken driving after he called 911 to report his marijuana as stolen but the dispatcher couldn't understand him because he was vomiting while on the road.

Marion County sheriff's deputies say 21-year-old Calvin Hoover, of Salem, told dispatchers early Tuesday

that someone had broken into his truck and stolen cash, a jacket and a small amount of marijuana while he was at a tavern in Salem.

He then called 911 again to complain that deputies had not arrived, but the dispatcher had trouble understanding Hoover because he was driving and stopping several times to vomit.

He was arrested on charges of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

The sheriff's office says it has no record of an attorney for Hoover.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 65 LOW 47	HIGH 50 LOW 47	HIGH 52 LOW 35	HIGH 53 LOW 35	HIGH 52 LOW 37	HIGH 53 LOW 42
Atlanta 68 / 57 Boston 67 / 48 Chicago 63 / 49 Denver 56 / 40 Houston 76 / 58 Los Angeles 75 / 52 Minneapolis 57 / 35 New York 68 / 52 Philadelphia 70 / 50 Phoenix 87 / 60 Seattle 51 / 45 St. Louis 73 / 52 Tampa 85 / 71 Washington 72 / 54						

ACE

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extremely demanding but rewarding.

"All teaching is service," she said. "You can see that every day. What I do makes a really big impact on the lives of my students."

Geoffrey Mooney, who is teaching geometry, morality and scripture to high school sophomores and juniors in Pensacola, Fla., said some of his experiences have also been challenging — and some have been downright humorous.

His funniest experience was being mistaken for a freshman or sophomore at the high school by the parents of a student. Yet Mooney laughs it off, and also said his students have benefited from having a young teacher.

"They like the fact that they have someone they can relate with, who know what it's like to be their age," he said. "They appreciate having someone who can share that with them."

In fact, Mooney has been surprised by how much respect he has been given as a new teacher.

"What's been really unique at my school is that they show us a lot of respect," he said. "They really respect what I'm doing."

Because of all of these experiences, Mooney said his life as a teacher in the ACE program is "a combination of crazy and fun."

Another aspect of being a teacher in the ACE program is communal living. ACE teachers live in houses with the other ACE teachers at their site. Jessica Stouffer, who

teaches math at the high school level in Montgomery, Ala., said she enjoys community life because the other teachers in the house are able to share advice for teaching.

Finally, ACE teachers like Laura Wilczek, who teaches sixth through eighth grade literature, overwhelmingly said their faith is a major component of their new lives.

"After a long day of teaching, coaching, grading and planning lessons, I find one of the best ways to center myself is through prayer," Wilczek said. "Each week, my community members gather for prayer in the evening. It is a wonderful time to reflect upon all the blessings in our life, as well as pray for each other during difficult times."

Contact Nora Kenney at hkenney@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of Kevin Veselik

Kevin Veselik, current ACE 16 teacher and 2008-2009 ACE Intern, is held up by his ACE Brownsville community members as they show their Texas pride.

SMC sees increase in music majors

By MEGHAN PRICE

News Writer

With the number of students choosing to study music increasing nationwide over the past four years, Saint Mary's music department has also seen an increase in number of students choosing music as their major, music professor Dr. Jeffrey Jacob said.

"Nearly half of our current music majors are freshman," Jacob said.

Jacob, who is a graduate of Julliard and has been teaching at the college for 30 years, said despite the today's economy and the difficulty graduates are having, there are 17 freshmen joining the music department.

Jacob said this is nearly double the average of eight new students the department is accustomed to seeing.

Jacob said the nationwide shift is an unexplained mystery to experts. Professionals in the field are unsure of why so many undergraduate students are taking a path that before had not been viewed as a secure career choice.

Jacob said one possibility is students applying to graduate school are attempting to diversify their resumes.

"Today, variety on a students resume is more important than ever," he said.

Jacob said another possibility was more and more students are choosing to double major.

"The faculty members have been working for the past five years to make the requirements for a music major more compatible with other majors," Jacob said. "As a result Saint Mary's has become a leader in Liberal Arts colleges, encouraging and making it possible to double major."

First year Erin Brown, who is in the music education program, said she is not worried about her career. Brown said she has known she wanted to teach music for a

long time and she is certain she will find a job.

"No matter what their major is, in this economy, everyone is probably a little worried about finding a job," Brown said. "But as long as there are schools,

there will be music in schools and there will be a need for music teachers."

Jacob said he also is not worried about his students trying to find jobs after graduating. He said that program alumnae go into many different fields but they all do well, whether they continue in music or not, and he is confident that the Saint Mary's music students will continue to succeed.

"Our graduates go into a variety of vocations," Jacob said. "But they all find a good job within a year or two of leaving Saint Mary's."

Contact Meghan Price at mprice02@saintmarys.edu

"No matter what their major is, in this economy, everyone is probably a little worried about finding a job."

Erin Brown
Saint Mary's first year

GreeND

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aware of how important climate change and energy independence is for America," event coordinator and junior Claire Brosnihan said.

The group posed in front of LaFortune Student Center, on South Quad and next to the Hesburgh Library. Students collected

petition signatures from interested passers-by. The petitions are going to be sent to each signer's respective U.S. Senator to urge the legislators to support environmental initiatives.

"Climate change affects most those who have contributed least to the issue. It is a human solidarity issue," Brosnihan said. "This is the greatest social justice issue of our time."

Brosnihan said the group was able to collect over 500 signatures.

"It went really well," she said.

Colleen Kelly, senior and president of GreeND, said much of the event's success was due to Brosnihan's leadership and the efforts of the students involved.

"GreeND is lucky to have a good network of people to rely on," she said. "My goal was to see a great student leader [Brosnihan] run with an idea she had."

Kelly said meeting people and hearing their views on environmental issues was definitely one of the highlights of the event.

"It's always interesting to converse with different people because it's such a complex issue and everyone comes at it from different

angles," she said. "Some welcomed discussion, others had already made up their mind, but it was a great event."

Patrick McCormick, who manages policy for GreeND, said another goal for the event alongside

raising awareness was to "bring Notre Dame students together to be part of an issue that's greater than themselves."

"Climate change has been called the ultimate collective action problem," he said. "What's needed is a solution that works for the common good. Notre Dame's voice is needed and can contribute to this debate."

Contact Jillian Stinchcomb at jstinchc@nd.edu

"What's needed is a solution that works for the common good. Notre Dame's voice is needed and can contribute to this debate."

Patrick McCormick
policy manager
GreeND

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Brazil student expelled for mini-dress

SAO PAULO — A Brazilian university has expelled a woman who was heckled by hundreds of fellow students for wearing a short, pink dress to class — publicly accusing her Sunday of immorality.

The private Bandeirante University in Sao Bernardo do Campo, outside Sao Paulo, said 20-year-old Geisy Arruda disrespected “ethical principles, academic dignity and morality.”

Bandeirante University published newspaper advertisements Sunday accusing Arruda of attending class with “inadequate clothing” and having a provocative attitude that was “incompatible with the university environment.”

Karzai pledges to end corruption

KABUL — The embattled Afghan president pledged Sunday that there would be no place for corrupt officials in his new administration — a demand made by Washington and its international partners as they ponder sending more troops to confront the Taliban and shore up his government.

Also Sunday, NATO reported three more coalition soldiers — one American and two Britons — died in combat with the Taliban in western and southern areas. The latest losses pushed Britain’s combat death toll in the eight-year Afghan war to 201.

NATO forces said they were still searching for two American paratroopers who disappeared Wednesday while trying to recover airdropped supplies that had fallen into a river. Afghan police said the two Americans were swept away by the current and may have drowned.

NATIONAL NEWS

Ft. Hood shooter tied to 9/11 hijackers

WASHINGTON — The alleged Fort Hood shooter apparently attended the same Virginia mosque as two Sept. 11 hijackers in 2001, at a time when a radical imam preached there.

Whether the Fort Hood shooter associated with the hijackers is something the FBI will probably look into, according to a law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

The family of Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan, the Army psychiatrist who killed 13 and wounded 29 at the Texas military base, held his mother’s funeral at the Dar al Hijrah Islamic Center in Falls Church, Va., on May 31, 2001, according to her obituary in the Roanoke Times newspaper.

U.S.-Indian culture clashes in Utah

BOUNTIFUL — To 12-year-old Suzannah Pabla, piercing her nose was a way to connect with her roots in India. To Suzannah’s school, it was a dress-code violation worthy of a suspension.

To other Indians, the incident was emblematic of how it can still be difficult for the American melting pot to absorb certain aspects of their cultural and religious traditions.

Suzannah was briefly suspended last month from her public school in Bountiful, Utah, for violating a body-piercing ban. School officials — who noted that nose piercing is an Indian cultural choice, not a religious requirement — compromised and said she could wear a clear, unobtrusive stud in her nose, and Suzannah returned to her seventh-grade class.

LOCAL NEWS

Lake County retirement plan draws few

CROWN POINT — Fewer than 20 full-time Lake County employees have applied for an early retirement package despite the county’s threat to eliminate 150 full-time government jobs by the end of the year.

“Some employees in their 80s have told me they can’t afford to retire,” said Diane Young, the county’s insurance coordinator. “If you can’t afford to retire when you are 85, when can you?”

Lake County Council President Larry Blanchard said the early retirement program was an effort to reduce county health care costs and reduce staff amid state-mandated property tax caps and declining revenues because of the recession.

U.S. may expand drug treatment

America redirects its attack on drugs in response to theraputic needs and the economic crisis

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Based on the rhetoric, America’s war on drugs seems poised to shift into a more enlightened phase where treatment of addicts gains favor over imprisonment of low-level offenders. Questions abound, however, about the nation’s readiness to turn the talk into reality.

The economic case for expanding treatment, especially amid a recession, seems clear. Study after study concludes that treating addicts, even in lengthy residential programs, costs markedly less than incarcerating them, so budget-strapped states could save millions.

The unmet need for more treatment also is vast. According to federal data, 7.6 million Americans needed treatment for illicit drug use in 2008, and only 1.2 million — or 16 percent — received it.

But the prospect of savings on prison and court costs hasn’t produced a surge of new fiscal support for treatment. California’s latest crisis budget, for example, strips all but a small fraction of state funding away from a successful diversion and treatment program that voters approved in 2000.

“It’s easy to talk a good game about more treatment and helping people,” said Scott Burns, executive director of the National District Attorneys Association. “But it smashes head on into reality when they don’t put their money where their mouth is.”

Money aside, the treatment field faces multiple challenges. At many programs, counselors — often former addicts themselves — are low-paid and turnover is high. Many states have yet to impose effective systems for evaluating programs, a crucial issue in a field where success is relative and relapses inevitable.

“Fifty percent of clients who enter treatment com-



Gamett Wilson leads a counseling session at the Fortune Society, a nonprofit support center in New York, on Oct. 22. Wilson served prison time in the 1980s and now works as a drug counselor.

plete it successfully — that means we’re losing half,” said Raquel Jeffers, director of New Jersey’s Division of Addiction Services. “We can do better.”

The appointment of treatment expert Tom McLellan as deputy director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy in April was seen as part of a shift of priorities for the drug czar’s office.

McLellan said he sees greater openness to expanding treatment but also deep misunderstanding or ignorance about scientific advances in the field and the need to integrate it into the health care system.

Most Americans, he suggested, have an image of drug treatment formed from the movies — “cartoon treat-

ment” involving emotional group encounters — and are unaware of a new wave of medications and other therapies that haven’t gained wide use despite proven effectiveness

“For the first time, it can truly be said that we know what to do — we know the things that work,” he said. “But do we have the economic and political willingness to put them into place? If we do, we’ll see results.”

McLellan, insisting he’s not “a wild-eyed liberal,” said expanding treatment wouldn’t negate the war on drugs.

“Law enforcement is necessary, but it’s not sufficient,” he said. “You need effective preventive services, addiction and mental health services integrated with the rest of medicine. You should-

n’t have to go to some squalid little place across the railroad tracks.”

By federal count, there are more than 13,640 treatment programs nationwide, ranging from world-class to dubious and mostly operating apart from the mainstream health-care industry.

Dr. H. Westley Clark, director of the federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, said his agency wants states to develop better measurements of programs’ performance.

“The data shows treatment saves money — \$1 spent to \$4 or \$7 saved,” Clark said. “If you’re an altruist, making treatment available is a good thing. If you’re a narcissist, it’s a good thing — you’d pay less in taxes.”

GERMANY

Berlin celebrates 20 years after wall’s fall

Associated Press

BERLIN — With concerts and memorials on Monday, Germans will celebrate the day the Berlin Wall came crashing down 20 years ago.

On that cold night, they danced atop the wall, arms raised in victory, hands clasped in friendship and giddy hope. Years of separation and anxiety melted into the unbelievable reality of freedom and a future without border guards, secret police, informers and rigid communist control.

Germans are celebrating with concerts boasting Beethoven and Bon Jovi; a memorial service for the 136 people killed trying to cross over

from 1961 to 1989; candle lightings and 1,000 towering plastic foam dominoes to be placed along the wall’s route and tipped over.

On Nov. 9, 1989, East Germans came in droves, riding their sputtering Trabants, motorcycles and rickety bicycles. Hundreds, then thousands, then hundreds of thousands crossed over the following days.

Stores in West Berlin stayed open late and banks gave out 100 Deutschemarks in “welcome money,” then worth about \$50, to each East German visitor.

The party lasted four days and by Nov. 12 more than 3 million of East Germany’s 16.6 million people had

visited, nearly a third of them to West Berlin, the rest through gates opening up along the rest of the fenced, mined frontier that cut their country in two.

Sections of the nearly 155 kilometers (100 miles) of wall were pulled down and knocked over. Tourists chiseled off chunks to keep as souvenirs. Tearful families reunited. Bars gave out free drinks. Strangers kissed and toasted each other with champagne.

Klaus-Hubert Fugger, a student at the Free University in West Berlin, was having drinks at a pub when people began coming “who looked a bit different.”

Dance

continued from page 1

sponsored by the junior class, Meghan Helmle, junior class president, said.

"This dance is a way for Saint Mary's to reconnect with the Naval Academy," she said. "It is also a way to give back to our student body."

Helmle said she started working with the Naval Academy back in September to reinstate the dance.

"We are able to host this event and not charge students an entry fee," she said. "This is meant to be a fun activity for the whole student body to enjoy."

"This dance is a way for Saint Mary's to reconnect with the Naval Academy."

Meghan Helmle
junior class president

Students said they enjoyed the dance, and look forward to attending in the future.

"The Navy boys were great dancers. A lot of them were really willing to ask girls to dance. They were also very polite," first year Sarah Korbonits said. "I would definitely go again. I think Saint Mary's should make this a tradition. The boys that came were very enthusiastic about being at Saint Mary's, which made it even more special."

Korbonits said the dance received rave reviews from both the Belles and the Midshipmen.

"I enjoyed the dance a lot. The Navy boys were very gentlemanly and a lot of fun to talk to. One of the guys I met said it was the most fun he's had all year," she said.

"The lights were pretty. I liked the decorations too. The centerpieces at the tables were well done."

Helmle said she hoped the dance would be something both the students of Saint Mary's and Navy could enjoy.

"It is really great that we were given this opportunity to continue a tradition here at Saint Mary's. I think over all the planning and preparations that have gone into this event will be worth it in the end," Helmle said.

Korbonits said the dance received rave reviews from both the Belles and the Midshipmen.

"I enjoyed the dance a lot. The Navy boys were very gentlemanly and a lot of fun to talk to. One of the guys I met said it was the most fun he's had all year," she said.

Contact Alicia Smith at
asmith01@saintmarys.edu



Photo courtesy of Fatima Farfan

Saint Mary's first year Teresa Cristarella poses with two Naval Academy cadets at the Navy-Saint Mary's formal Saturday night.

Mendoza

continued from page 1

10th and ninth years, respectively.

"The competition has seen many great submissions develop to be quite successful," Slaggert said. "Better World Books is a great example of this — it started as a social venture submission and has developed into something of great impact."

The Business Plan Competition is open to anyone, but each team must have at least one member who is either a full-time Notre Dame student or an alumnus.

In an attempt to draw entrepreneurs from a broad range of backgrounds and facilitate networking, the Gigot Center recently created TeamMatch on Facebook to enable potential competitors to post and find team members with desired skills and interests.

"We really want to get the word out about the competition because some of the best ideas come from outside of Mendoza — from engineers, liberal arts students and others," Slaggert said.

Senior Andy Steves, an industrial design and Italian double major, is entering this

year's McCloskey category with his venture, Weekend Student Adventures in Europe, which offers weekend tour packages to American students studying in Europe.

"The Competition has given me the opportunity to meet with advisors, flush out my idea and develop it to the point of actually pursuing it after I graduate this May," Steves said. "It has really opened my eyes to the business world."

Many teams hope to make an impact in the world with their proposed ventures.

"We are entering the Social Venture Competition with our venture, Response, Inc., because we believe we can make a difference in the lives of orphans in Uganda and students here in the states," senior Michelle Carlise, team leader of Response, Inc., said.

Carlise said Response would focus on addressing the needs of orphans in Uganda through business.

"The Competition has given me the opportunity to meet with advisors, flush out my idea and develop it to the point of actually pursuing it after I graduate this May."

Andy Steves
senior

"Response is a faith-based organization that focuses on responding to the call of Christ both at home and abroad — we plan to support our orphanage in Uganda through touring with music and Ugandan-made crafts here in the states, and by providing financial services to the Ugandan community," she said.

Response Inc.'s team composition represents the variety found in the competition. The team consists of two Notre Dame seniors, a 2007 Notre Dame graduate, a senior at Bethel College and a junior at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, with backgrounds in film, theology, economics,

public health, music, and ministry experience.

The deadline for submissions to the Competition is today. Details can be found at www.nd.edu/~entrep/

Contact Casey Kenny at
ckenny@nd.edu

Loss

continued from page 1

ended up really disappointed," freshman Ashley Okonta said. "I expected a blowout."

Freshman Louise Fauth said the team's failure to fulfill their high expectations was shocking.

"I thought that we were supposed to kill them so it was kind of a shock that we lost," she said.

Students seemed to be especially disappointed at the bad luck that Notre Dame seemed to experience throughout the game.

"The whole game I was like 'What just happened?'" freshman Sam Boers said.

Especially nerve-wracking to the student body was quarterback Jimmy Clausen's failed attempt at a rush into the end zone that resulted in him remaining on the ground for

several minutes after being hit by a Navy defender.

"There was a moment of shock when he didn't get up right away but when he came back I was confident that he was fine," Boers said.

Other students felt Clausen's play in the game, including the hard hit he took, was one of the bright spots in an otherwise long day.

"I really respect him for going for it. Most quarterbacks wouldn't. I respect him more this year because he takes more risks," sophomore Daniel DeMars said.

DeMars also said a bright spot for the Irish was the continued trend of strong play late in the game.

"We picked it up in the fourth quarter as usual," he said. "We just didn't keep it up for the first three."

Contact Sam Stryker at
sstrkyel@nd.edu

"The whole game I was like, 'What just happened?'"

Sam Boers
freshman



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IN BRIEF

Sony offers ‘Cloudy’ early for users

LOS ANGELES — In a bid to sell living room electronics and spur buzz for “Cloudy with A Chance of Meatballs,” Sony Corp. is offering the movie for free to U.S. buyers of its Internet-connected TVs and Blu-ray players starting Monday.

People who buy that equipment will be able to watch the movie in any 24-hour window from Dec. 8 until it is released on DVD and Blu-ray disc on Jan. 5.

Sony’s move highlights the way that movies are increasingly becoming available on TVs that connect directly to the Internet as the entertainment industry strives to come up with new business models.

Amazon.com Inc. and Blockbuster Inc. offer movies for rental or purchase on certain Internet-connected TVs, while Netflix Inc. will make its streaming catalog available to its subscribers with Sony Bravia TVs.

Those services, however, don’t provide the early-release jump Sony is trying with “Cloudy with A Chance of Meatballs,” which comes from the Sony Pictures movie studio.

Fry’s, Safeway prep for strike

PHOENIX — In less than a week, unionized workers at two Arizona grocery store chains may be walking a picket line instead of stocking shelves and cutting meat.

Fry’s Food Stores has begun advertising for thousands of temporary workers in the event its estimated 13,000 hourly workers strike.

Fry’s recruitment ads began running Saturday and offer a starting wage of \$9.50 per hour. Safeway spokeswoman Cathy Kloos said the chain is preparing to do the same.

The United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 99 has threatened to call a strike if the companies and the union fail to reach a contract deal by 6 p.m. Friday.

The union represents most hourly workers at the two grocery chains, including clerks, stockers, meat cutters, produce workers and baggers.

The workers typically make between \$7.20 and \$12.05 per hour and can expect to receive \$100 per week in strike pay if they walk out.

Health care benefits are the main issue between the chains and the union.

The companies have traditionally paid for their employees’ health insurance and now want them to shoulder more of the cost.

Holiday airfares climbing steeply

Travel becomes more expensive this year especially as Christmas nears

Associated Press

If holiday travelers on the same plane compare what they paid to fly, they’re likely to find quite a spread, depending on when they bought their tickets.

Fares for travel around the holidays have been rising since late summer. Christmas fares are now running 4 percent below a year ago, and the gap is likely to disappear soon.

Contrast that with a year ago, when the airlines essentially put the holiday travel season on sale. With the recession in full force, airlines used discounting to fill seats.

People who waited to book holiday fares last year saved money. This year, holding off could cost you.

Most carriers pushed through a \$10 fare increase at the end of October. For the holidays, the big airlines added a \$20 surcharge each way on popular travel days closest to Christmas and New Year’s.

Tom Parsons of BestFares.com compared holiday fares purchased on July 1 with the same itinerary booked on Nov 2. Several had risen 50 percent or more. Los Angeles to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., had more than doubled to \$528.

Airlines have been shrinking to match a decrease in travel. With the supply of seats more in line with demand, carriers have been able to raise fares close to where they were last holiday season.

Average Thanksgiving fares are up 2 percent to \$351, according to Bing Travel, the fare-watching Web site owned by Microsoft. The average Christmas fare is around \$370 roundtrip, slightly below a year ago.

Thanksgiving fares “are up quite a bit even from where they were at the beginning of October,” said Joel Grus, who tracks fares for Bing Travel. He also



Passengers wait in long lines at San Francisco International Airport in November 2008. Most carriers increased fares at the end of October for this year’s holiday season.

thinks Christmas fares will soon be at last year’s levels.

Given the upward trend in fares, Grus says book now. Check on fares several times a day. Sometimes seats become available at a lower price.

Of course, the cheapest ticket is purchased with frequent flier miles. Airlines only make some seats on each flight available for purchase with frequent flier miles. Some are still available, but Randy Petersen, editor of InsideFlyer magazine, said they’re getting scarce because most holiday travelers started booking those as early as August.

“As we get closer, there are good airfare deals,” he said, “but there’s not a lot

left in frequent flier miles.”

Some other things to consider this holiday travel season:

— Some fees are higher. During the last year, airlines began charging \$5 more each way if you pay your baggage fee at the airport instead of online. For a family of four traveling with one bag each, that would add up to an additional \$40 for a roundtrip, on top of the base baggage fee.

Most airlines now charge \$15 to \$20 to check your first bag and \$25 to \$30 for the second. During the last year, airlines began charging \$5 more each way if you pay your baggage fee at the airport instead of online.

Southwest still allows two

bags for free. JetBlue Airways allows one. Virgin America added a fee of \$20 per bag this fall.

— Airlines have reduced the amount of flying they’re doing. That could make it tougher to buy a seat on the flight you want.

— Consider a change in plans. If you want your own personal airfare sale, pay attention to which days you fly. A popular Thanksgiving itinerary is to fly on Wednesday before the holiday and return on Sunday. Grus said fares run about 25 percent cheaper if you fly on Tuesday and return Saturday. Flying on Thanksgiving Day and returning on Monday can save fliers about 30 percent cheaper on average, he said.

Philadelphia transit strike continues

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Commuters in the City of Brotherly Love have been told to gear up to begin a second week of finding other ways to work following the collapse of a proposed deal to end a six-day-old strike by about 5,000 bus drivers, subway and trolley conductors and mechanics.

The largest union representing workers of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority wants an independent forensic audit of pension funds. The union is also rejecting language that could reopen the contract if SEPTA’s costs increase due to national health care reform.

SEPTA spokesman Richard Maloney said the ball is in the union’s court “to come back to the table and sign the

contract.”

“We feel badly for our riders,” he said Sunday. “They’re being unnecessarily hurt in many ways across the five-county area. There are countless thousands of people who are suffering, and it’s unnecessary.”

Jamie Horwitz, spokesman for the Transport Workers Local 234, said the two sides had reached agreement on monetary and pension issues, but differences remained on the health reform provision and union president Willie Brown’s call for an audit.

“Like riders, we want a resolution to this,” Horwitz said Sunday. “We also have a responsibility to our members.”

Pensions have been the major issue in the strike and “there are many questions about the way the pension

was managed by SEPTA,” Horwitz said.

Brown told reporters Saturday night that if the agency did not agree to an audit “then I guess we’re going to be here for a while.”

The health care language has taken on new urgency following the U.S. House’s approval of a health care reform bill late Saturday, Horwitz said. The provision could lead to another strike or another lengthy round of negotiation before the five-year agreement runs its course, he said.

“That’s not acceptable to the union and we would like to see a contract that is binding for the length of the agreement,” he said.

Both sides said no new meetings were scheduled.

China premier pledges funds and aid to Africa

Associated Press

SHARM EL-SHEIK, Egypt — China’s premier on Sunday pledged \$10 billion in low interest loans to African nations over the next three years and said Beijing would cancel the government debts of some of the poorest of those countries.

The announcement by Wen Jiabao looked to deflect criticism that China’s investments in the continent were motivated purely by greed. China is one of the largest investors in Africa, along with the United States and Europe.

At a two-day China-Africa summit, Wen Jiabao also said China would build 100 new clean energy projects for Africa over the same period as part of an effort to help the continent deal with climate change issues.

“We will help Africa build up financing capacity,” Wen said at the start of the two-day Forum on China-Africa Cooperation summit. “We will provide \$10 billion in concessional loans to African countries.”

Concessional loans are ones that offer generous terms — better than market rates — to poorer countries.

China’s inroads into Africa have come at a price for Beijing. The country has been accused by some in the West of ignoring Africa’s needs and the dismal rights records of some of its countries while looking only to sate its hunger for the fuel it needs to drive its bustling economy.

China has, for example, been a key force in developing Sudan’s vital oil sector even as the Arab-dominated government in Khartoum is accused of atrocities in the Darfur region. More recently, a \$7 billion mining deal was signed between a little known Chinese company and Guinea’s government — an agreement that came weeks after soldiers there opened fire on demonstrators and

raped women in the streets.

But Wen said while many in the world have only now begun to take note of China’s role in Africa, it was a relationship that dates back five decades and included helping the countries throw off the yoke of colonialism.

“The Chinese people cherish sincere friendship toward the African people, and China’s support to Africa’s development is concrete and real,” Wen said at a forum that attracted leaders such as Sudan’s Omar el-Bashir and Zimbabwe’s Robert Mugabe — heads of state out-of-favor with the West.

“Whatever change that may take place in the world, our friendship with African people will not change,” Wen said. “Our commitment to deepening mutually beneficial cooperation ... will not change, and our policy of supporting Africa’s economic and social development will not change.”

Wen said that as part of its support for Africa and growing trade ties with China, Beijing would take eight new measures over the next three years, including helping Africa build up its financing capacity.

Along with the loans — double the amount pledged two years earlier at a similar summit in Beijing — Wen also said that for the most heavily indebted and least developed African nations, China would cancel their debts associated with interest free government loans set to mature at the end of this year.

The caveat was that the debt forgiveness was restricted to those nations that have diplomatic relations with China — a condition likely to rankle critics who argue that China has made its support conditional on countries backing it fully, including by renouncing ties with Taiwan. The overwhelming majority of African nations have diplomatic ties with China.

Hurricane Ida aims for Gulf

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Hurricane Ida, the first Atlantic hurricane to target the United States this year, plodded Sunday toward the Gulf Coast with 100 mph winds, bringing the threat of flooding and storm surges.

A hurricane watch extended over more than 200 miles of coastline across southeastern Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and the Florida Panhandle. Louisiana’s governor declared a state of emergency.

Authorities said Ida could make landfall as early as Tuesday morning, although it was forecast to weaken by then. Officials and residents kept a close eye on the Category 2 hurricane as it approached, though there were no immediate plans for evacuations.

At 1 p.m. EST, Ida was located 510 miles south-southeast of the mouth of the Mississippi River and moving northwest near 10 mph. The latest forecast from the National Hurricane Center shows Ida brushing near Louisiana and Mississippi, then making landfall near Alabama before continuing across north Florida.

Yet many residents took the forecast in stride.

“Even though we’re telling everybody to be prepared, my gut tells me it probably won’t be that bad,” said Steve Arndt, director of Bay Point Marina Co. in Panama City, Fla.

In Louisiana, Gov. Bobby Jindal had declared a state of emergency as a precaution, and the National Guard was on high alert if assistance was needed. New Orleans wasn’t included in the hurricane watch.

But officials were encouraging residents to prepare for potential gusts of 60 mph by removing any tree limbs that could damage their homes and securing or bringing in any trash cans, grills, potted plants or patio furniture.

Nearly 1,400 Louisiana residents are still living in federally issued trailers and mobile homes after hurricanes Katrina and Rita; nearly 360 units remained in Mississippi.

“FEMA stresses that those in temporary (housing) units should not take chances,” Federal Emergency Management Agency spokesman Andrew Thomas said. “Leave the unit behind and evacuate to a permanent structure that will better withstand tropical weather systems and the associated winds.”

Mississippi authorities warned residents to be vigilant. Authorities were monitoring conditions to see whether any evacuations of lower-lying areas or school closures would be necessary.

“It is likely we will at least be hit with strong winds and some flooding in our coastal counties,” said Jeff Rent, a spokesman for the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. Officials “do not want anybody to be caught off guard.”

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency Director Mike Womack said forecasts called for tides of 4-7 feet above normal and rainfall totals of 5-7 inches within 24 hours, which could mean flooding along the coasts and along rivers.

Alabama emergency management officials did not immediately respond to phone messages.

In the Florida Panhandle, residents in Bay County and Panama City were being advised to secure boats and prepare for storm surges that could reach 2-3 feet. Heavy rain, wind and possible flooding was also expected.

“You really don’t know until it gets close how you’re going to be affected by it,” said Brad Monroe, Bay County’s deputy chief of emergency services.

Ida wasn’t expected to pack the wallop seen in 2008 when hurricanes Gustav and Ike pelted the Gulf Coast back-to-back. There have been nine named storms this season, which ends Dec. 1. Ida is only the third hurricane to form, and neither of the others threatened land.

Ida wasn’t expected to directly threaten New Orleans, where unflappable fans at the Saints football game seemed unaware a storm was approaching.

“We’re used to tropical storms,” said David Clements of Chalmette, La. “That’s why we have a dome.”

Earlier Sunday, Ida’s wind and rain whipped palm trees in the Mexican resort city of Cancun. Fishermen tied their boats down, though tourists seemed to regard it as a minor setback.

“It’s not what we expected,” said Kathleen Weisser, a nurse from Fernley, Nev. “We wanted sun. Instead we have liquid sunshine.”

Ron Kaczorowski, of Chicago, said his daughter was forced to move her beach wedding inside because of the storm. He said he had tried to reassure his disappointed daughter that the nasty weather would make her wedding stand out.

“I told her, ‘How many people get married in a hurricane?’”

Chavez orders troops to prepare for conflict

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — President Hugo Chavez on Sunday ordered Venezuela’s military to prepare for a possible armed conflict with Colombia, saying his country’s soldiers should be ready if the United States attempts to provoke a war between the South American neighbors.

Chavez said Venezuela could end up going to war with Colombia as tensions between them rise, and he warned that if a conflict broke out “it could extend throughout the whole continent.”

“The best way to avoid war is preparing for it,” Chavez told military officers during his weekly television and radio program. Venezuela’s socialist leader has also cited a recent deal between Bogota and Washington giving U.S. troops greater access to military bases as a threat to regional stability.

There was no immediate reaction from either the Colombian or U.S. government, but in the past they have denied intentions to start a war with Venezuela and

said the base deal is needed to fight the war on drugs and insurgents in Colombia, which is a major cocaine producer struggling with a decades-old internal conflict.

Tensions along the Venezuela-Colombia border have been exacerbated in recent weeks by a series of shootings and slayings.

Four men on motorcycles shot and killed two Venezuelan National Guard troops at a checkpoint near the border in Venezuela’s western Tachira state last week, prompting Chavez’s government to temporarily close some border crossings.

And last month, Venezuelan authorities arrested at least 10 people in Tachira alleging involvement in paramilitary groups. The bullet-ridden bodies of 11 men, nine of them Colombians, were also found last month in Tachira after being abducted from a soccer field.


The violence prompted Venezuela to send 15,000 soldiers to the border with Colombia on Thursday. Officials said the buildup was necessary to increase security along the border.

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Suspect identified in Seattle police shooting

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Police described a suspect in the shooting death of a Seattle policeman as a “lone domestic terrorist” and said he was also suspected of firebombing four police vehicles.

At a news conference, Seattle Assistant Police Chief Jim Pugel identified 41-year-old Christopher Monfort as the man shot by police on Friday as he was sought in connection with the Halloween killing of officer Timothy Brenton. Pugel also said investigators found improvised explosive devices at Monfort’s apartment.

“This man, from everything we can tell is a lone domestic terrorist,” Pugel said. “At this moment we cannot find any ties to anyone else.”

Police evacuated part of Monfort’s apartment complex Saturday evening after finding what was described as a “potential hazard,” Seattle’s KING 5 News reported. Police didn’t elaborate on the evacuation but allowed residents to return to their homes after about an hour.

Brenton was sitting in a car Oct. 31 with rookie Officer Britt Sweeney following a traffic stop when shots were fired. Sweeney was grazed in the neck.

Detectives have asked the King County prosecutor’s office for formal charges in the case.

On Sunday morning, Monfort was still in serious condition in the intensive care unit at

Harborview Medical Center, said hospital spokeswoman Susan Gregg-Hanson. He underwent hours of surgery Friday night and arrived at the hospital in critical condition with “multiple injuries.”

Pugel said police believe Monfort is connected to the Oct. 22 firebombings of three Seattle police cruisers and a mobile command post at a nearby city garage. Investigators reportedly found a note threatening to kill officers and fliers protesting police brutality at the arson scene.

The Seattle Times reported that an American flag found at the maintenance yard and a similar one found near the shooting scene gave investigators a key link between the two crimes even before Monfort was identified as the suspect. The Times attributed the information to unnamed law-enforcement sources.

On Friday, police detectives were pursuing a tip from a resident who said a car at an apartment complex in suburban Tukwila matched the description of a vehicle seen nearby when Brenton was killed.

While officers examined the car, which was covered by a tarp, television footage showed dozens of cruisers surrounding the building.

Pugel said detectives were walking to speak with other law enforcement conducting surveillance when Monfort left his apartment and approached three detectives.

Philosophy Politics and Economics Minor

Information Meeting

First year Students Welcome

Thursday November 10

131 De Bartolo



Idan Raichel Project Concert and Post-Performance Talk

While recent headlines are dominated by news of conflict and war in the Middle East, the IDAN RAICHEL PROJECT is an Israeli musical collaborative that has achieved success by looking beyond intercultural differences and celebrating the value of diversity.

Led by a young keyboardist, composer and producer named Idan Raichel, the Project’s blend of traditional Ethiopian folk music, Arabic poetry, Yemenite chants, Biblical psalms and Caribbean rhythms with sophisticated production techniques has resulted in an unparalleled musical phenomenon that has already taken Israel by storm, generating multiple No. 1 hits and selling over 250,000 copies of its two domestically released albums.

Following the concert, Idan Raichel will discuss the role music plays in bringing countries and religions together in harmony. This is your opportunity to ask questions and speak with Idan. *Talk open to concert goers only.*

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*iTunes download limited to the first 200 Notre Dame students purchasing a minimum of one (1) Idan Raichel Project ticket between the dates of October 26, 2009 and November 12, 2009 for the University of Notre Dame’s DeBartolo Performing Arts Center November 14, 2009 concert date. Offer not available online.

*Our ability to live in peace with each other
depends first and foremost on our ability to
accept all that is different than us.*

*I want to get closer to you,
but let me be who I am.*

*I welcome you coming closer to me,
while respecting who you are.*

*On our own individual paths we are
all looking for bread, the water, the
wind and a dignified life.*

And yes, we all cling to love.

Idan Raichel



know no boundaries
World View is an initiative from the Office of the President to promote constructive dialogue about issues of race, class, ethnicity, religion, and gender through the arts.



THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

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Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Jenn Metz.

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$120 for one academic year; \$65 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame
and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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The great mystery

A few weeks ago, I met with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission with a group of fellow Notre Dame students. For those of you who may not know, FERC is an executive agency that oversees interstate energy transport, be it in the form of electricity, natural gas, oil pipelines or hydroelectric power.

The meeting was interesting and the bureaucrat with whom we spoke knowledgeable. I would have left the hour feeling intellectually satisfied, perhaps complacently, were it not for the final question she entertained:

Student: "How do you know exactly what the generated electricity is used for?"

Her answer?

"Well that's the great mystery, isn't it?"

What? The commission responsible for regulating energy flow doesn't know where electricity goes?

Her answer was not intended to leave such an esoteric takeaway. She was referring to the notion known among electrical professions that electron flow moves water-like along the path of least resistance. Because of this "fluidity" of electrons, it is impossible to track one electron as having been made in this particular generating plant and reaching its end destination at that exact streetlight.



**Jackie
Mirandola
Mullen**

*Freckled
Thoughts*

Yet, her large-scale response couldn't help but lead me to a similarly capacious framing of the situation. Since when are we so big, so complex, that we don't fully understand the functions of a system that we ourselves have created and made essential for modern human life? How can we create pathways that are too complex to track action, too tangled to trace movement and instead require faith in a "great mystery" that everything will turn out okay?

Hold up. Is this article about our electricity or our economy?

It could be either. We are huge. Our economic markets are huge, our personal and national spheres of influence are titanic, our resource use is colossal. Our nation's economic and political systems sit lost in their own obesity epidemic, so complex that even the very commodity we rely on for heat, cold, light and food storage remains a mystery to those in charge of regulating it.

It's a lot like gaining weight, this acquisition of national bulk. Mass accrues so gradually that only ten years down the line do you look down and realize your gut has expanded to the point where you can't even see your feet anymore. You know they still exist down there, you can usually feel them, but it sure takes some effort to take care of them.

If stimulus money really is impossible to track, if certain companies truly are "too big to fail," then why is the solution to throw more money at them, hoping some morals will stick? Parents anywhere will tell you that handing out

money to a child doesn't improve his/her/a national conglomerate's character.

Being large, advanced and far-reaching obviously does afford some benefits. In America, we feel limitless in our pursuits, we have access to mass amounts of information and we don't struggle with the basic necessities of life in the same way that so many other countries do. Yet, how do we reconcile this ease with the waste of our huge lifestyles? More importantly, how do we tame the Franksteins of our massive culture?

Most huge civilizations of the world grew and grew because of their successes, but too much success has historically tended to lead to epic failure. Rome couldn't control its expansive northern territories from centers in the south and Britain eventually couldn't keep its colonies in line with only a Navy. Our ingenuity advances us, but also creates capable monsters, systems that we administer but cannot track.

I'm not sure if I'm advocating for secession, ruralism, Amish lifestyles or the apocalypse. Maybe all four, but probably none. What I do know is that we need to slow down and scale back. How can we retain and check up on the "great mysteries" of our inventions if they stay so great and mysterious?

Jackie Mirandola Mullen is a senior history and German major. She uses electricity. You can contact her at jmirando@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

When should Charlie Weis be fired?

Never

Should have been fired yesterday

After our next loss

After the season

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at
www.ndsmcobserver.com.

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to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If you must play, decide upon three things at the start: the rules of the game, the stakes and the quitting time."

Chinese Proverb

We need a college coach

I just wanted to vent a little — no big deal. I am not a die-hard fan but I do get upset when we throw away chances to win. I will feel better just putting it down on paper, so to speak. And I realize, too, that there are many, many other facets of Notre Dame than football, but being in the limelight, it gets a lot of press.

Stephen Pladna

*Guest
Columnist*

Let me preface my remarks by saying that those coaches I will mention I believe to be good, honest people. But I like to make the comparison to Jimmy Carter: he was a nice guy, too. But all three of them were sadly not good at the job they were ultimately given. As an outsider, non-player with a useless opinion, I see how all these people had wonderful skills at one level, that did not transport to the college level.

I am a Notre Dame alum that has seen the Ara years and those since. I have just finished over half the new book “Resurrection,” if for no other reason than it has quite a lot of history of what went on before. The parallels to now are scary.

I have seen great years, good years and purely dismal years. Winning and losing are all part of the experience, and I can live with both. I have seen some great chances taken by the University in coaching deci-

sions (I, for one, really thought Gerry Faust would be very successful — his high school record was stellar). I have seen the program go through radical shifts and changes in the philosophy of how the team should be built and perform (most turned out adversely). And I have seen (though I was very nervous) the seemingly better chance taken with the advent of Charlie Weis — another coach with purely stellar credentials from a different level of football.

I have seen sad things, too. I saw the university tarnish itself permanently by the early dismissal of Tyrone Willingham. I have seen the proven ways of recruiting and team building — those that brought Notre Dame success — thrown out for something supposedly better (these were where the dismal years came in). And over the last couple of years, I have watched our team consistently shoot itself in the foot many times over.

So here we are. The last four years have been very, very rocky. The team does not seem to be able to stabilize on either the side of mediocrity or the side of excellence.

We have a defense that one minute is stopping teams on the one-foot line for three plays, and the next is allowing totally uncovered receivers to romp into the end zone. (Let me say that I think the defense has shown gargantuan glimmers of great-

ness, saving at least three games so far in the waning minutes when the offense spent all day putting hardly any points on the board.) I don’t know if game stress or what keeps them so variable, but if we have any one to thank for the wins we do have, it is the defense.

I could accept all this if I thought those directing things knew what they were doing, but it sure looks to me like the players are being given lousy choices in plays.

When I see a player that is near the top of the heap in offense, when I see a team that amasses huge amounts of gains (but only between the two 20-yard lines) I am aghast. Notre Dame has unfortunately been totally inept in scoring when they are inside the 20-yard line and have a first down — even inside the ten. I know the real estate gets smaller down there, but come on. We have some fantastic performers and for some crazy reason they cannot play the same when close to the goal. I don’t blame the players, I blame the play calling. What good is the 350 to more than 400 yards of offense per game if it is only gotten running back and forth but not scoring?

We need to go back to our roots. We need a proven college coach like Ara (he had a known, proven record at Northwestern). Heck, most of the coaches since Ara were very good. If you realize that no one can

win all the time forever, then it is clear that Notre Dame has shown the ability to find a coach to put us back where we used to be (not winning every year, but certainly among the elite groups). But all the good ones were proven college coaches — not from high school and not from the pros.

I am done now, for what it’s worth. The scary part is that after the Navy game, Coach Weis made the statement that the outcome of this game would not affect the way he coaches. In reading the “Resurrection” book, this is what Devore and Kuharich said. The parallel I see between Kuharich and Coach Weis is interesting — too close for comfort if you ask me.

When anyone stops learning from their mistakes, they cease to function effectively. Charlie may be trying to prove something that just will not come to pass — just because you want it does not make it happen. You cannot be good at everything in every way (“render unto Caesar”). Notre Dame needs an offensive coordinator really, really badly.

Stephen Pladna is a 1974 graduate. He can be contacted at pladn001@mc.duke.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

A Notre Dame short story

Part 5 by Felicia Aguirre

He snapped out of his memory just in time to answer the first question. A short, bald man with yellow teeth leaned forward in his seat, strumming his fingers against the podium in front of him.

“Do you know why you are here, Frederick M. Stevens?” he asked, and his hairy eyebrows bunched inquisitively on his forehead. Frederick took a deep breath and stared at the floor, deep in thought. Those days of working at the Toys-R-Us in Humptulips were long ago, and Frederick vaguely remembered how the events unfolded. He recalled Larry Seretty diving on the floor over the display of Easy-Bake ovens screaming, “Do a barrel roll!” Michael Piles slid down aisle eight on a Razor Scooter, and knocked Mark Evans to the floor.

The whole scenario ended in one giant fit of giggles, as the madman made his escape. Blinking back tears of laughter, Frederick saw the madman grab a grey stone out of the pet rock collection and run out of the store. The stone was not particularly unique. In fact, Frederick thought Larry had stolen it from the parking lot outside, and placed it in the bin as a joke.

They may know that he had committed the crime, but they had no way of anticipating that he had met a previous victim. If only he had taken the madman seriously.

Part 6 by Nicholas Brandt

A man in a beige-tinted jacket approached him from his council pedestal. He sloshed through the jagged debris and mumbled grumblings to himself. He was squinting his green-brown eyes.

“So why you done torn down this here wall?”

Frederick looked at the man. The following words were the only things that managed to escape his breath: “I ... I couldn’t ... get out.” The overwhelming feeling of hollow success began to engulf him.

The man raised an eyelid. Putting his hands on his hips, he let out a feeble chuckle.

“Heh! Couldn’t get out? Why, that’s about the funniest thing I ever heard,” he said.

He offered Frederick his hand. As he got to his feet he noticed that the man’s other hand wasn’t moving and hadn’t been since he arrived. It just dangled by his side. Looked like more of a hindrance to him than an aesthetic advantage. They carried on, climbing through rubble. First his bricks, then more bricks, then shards of what looked like formerly wooden planks, then tall grass, then thick mud. The going was tough, but the tough got going, so they say. They finally came to a point of solid ground.

It was then that they saw the mountain.

Write Part Seven!

Want to write the next paragraph to the story? Submit your paragraph to NDLFshortstory@gmail.com before 4 p.m. Limit of 200 words. Title it Part Seven. This story will continue until Nov. 16. If your paragraph is selected, it will be published in Viewpoint and you will get to read it at the NDLF panel discussion Nov. 19. The visiting authors will write the ending paragraphs. Take advantage of the opportunity to write a story along with three New York Times bestselling authors!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cell phones distracting

My wife and I attended the excellent Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra Concert Nov. 5 and found ourselves constantly distracted by the frequent audience use of cell phones for texting and e-mailing during the actual concert. The glow of cell phones was all around us. I could not for the life of me understand why people could not wait until the concert was over to use their cell phones.

I would urge the DeBartolo Center for Performing Arts to adopt a strict policy of insisting that all cell phones be turned

completely off during any event. We all pay good money to enjoy the wonderful events available for the Notre Dame and South Bend community. Common sense and simple etiquette should dictate that all electronic devices be turned completely off. We both found the use of these devices quite rude and distracting; not only for us but the rest of the audience. Turn them off, but if you cannot, leave. Thank you.

Jeffrey Bernel

faculty
Nov. 7

Show some respect

In our world today, there is probably a little too much political correctness. People need to stop getting so annoyed over the most innocuous of comments and grow up. Yet there are times in which a little more tact is called for. I could not help but be uncomfortable during the Navy game when the band struck up the Imperial Death March and the student section chanted, in unison, “Kill.” Under most circumstances (USC, Washington, Nevada, etc.) I have no problem with this cheer. Nobody is actually suggesting that we end the lives of anybody on the opposing team and the members of that team are not in any danger — it’s just a cheer.

But in such a friendly rivalry, where we are playing a team full of men who are prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice for us, is it really

necessary to even imply killing them, albeit in jest?

Furthermore, I do hope that the band refrains from using the “kill” cheer for our final game versus Connecticut. Again, under normal circumstances it is of course an innocent cheer, but with the events surrounding the tragic murder of Connecticut defensive back Jasper Howard, having a student section full of people chanting “kill” while engaged in a stabbing motion just seems to go a bit far. Frankly, we’d look like a bunch of tools.

Greg Robinson

senior
off campus
Nov. 7



Notre Dame Cult Classics

By MAIJA GUSTIN, JORDAN GAMBLE, ADRIANA PRATT, COURTNEY ECKERLE, MATT BROWN, NICK ANDERSON, JESS SHAFFER and MARY CLAIRE O'DONNELL
Scene Writers

With the upcoming release — and preview screening here at Notre Dame — of “The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day” fast approaching, all the excitement on campus begs a question: Why does Notre Dame love cult classic “Boondock Saints” so much?

In lieu of extensive research and a definitive answer to this question, here instead is a glimpse at some of Notre Dame’s own cult classics. Not all are Irish, and not all garner the respect and adoration that “Boondock Saints” does. But Domers love them anyways.

From hilarious musicals to anarchical action flicks, Notre Dame loves to spend those months without football watching these movies, over and over again, getting them the coveted distinction of being Notre Dame Cult Classics.

The Departed

Just like “Boondock Saints,” Martin Scorsese’s 2006 Oscar-winner “The Departed” has Boston, crooked cops, the Mafia and obscene violence. Unlike “Boondock Saints,” however, it is a legitimately “good” film (hence the “Best Picture” award) and it has Notre Dame shout-outs galore. Martin Sheen (who has a history of characters with Domer connections) plays a Catholic police detective who brags (okay, mentions) that his son goes to Notre Dame. And don’t forget Jack Nicholson’s memorable final appearance in an Irish t-shirt.

She’s the Man

For three not-very-good reasons, the women of Notre Dame seem to love “She’s the Man.” It’s quotable, it’s ridiculously good fun and Channing Tatum spends half his screen time shirtless. Plus, for all of the pseudo-intellectual movie critics on campus, “She’s the Man” is an adaptation of William Shakespeare’s cross-dressing comedy, “Twelfth Night.” Let the academic discussion commence.

Wedding Crashers

There is something terribly charming about lying playboys who find clever ways to get as many girls as possible, as long as they’re hilarious. Honestly, who wouldn’t be entertained by Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson’s antics as they searched for the best ways to have a good time? The rules of their game are plastered over dorm walls for good reason. “Wedding Crashers” combines humor with fantastic characterization and traipses its audience

down the aisle, dropping them off at the altar of two comedic geniuses.

Mean Girls

Whether it’s torturing your friends with a sweatpants comment or a well placed, “You can’t sit with us!” there is a little Regina George in all of us. “Mean Girls” has become everything from a Friday movie night regular to a wake up call on how ridiculous girl behavior really is. Unlike most high school movies, it actually comes eerily close to the real thing — girls can be vicious. “Mean Girls” is a classic because it shows how close bonds can come out of it, maybe over a good conversation or even falling backwards into a group of your peers during a trust exercise. Just don’t say that you’re sorry because people are jealous of you, and you can’t help it that you’re really popular. And guess what — Regina was right. Fetch never happened.

Sweet Home Alabama

If “Sweet Home Alabama” isn’t sweeping the campus, well, it should be. Reese Witherspoon is any man’s dream — a smart, fiery, strong-willed woman that isn’t too hard on the eyes, if I do say so myself. Plus for all you ladies out there, word is that Josh Lucas ain’t too bad either; the man makes glass from lightning. While it’s nothing really new on the romantic comedy scene, you can’t go wrong with your basic big-time-city-girl coming back to town and having to choose between old and new. Come for the love, stay for the Civil War reenactors.

V for Vendetta

A powerful, faceless theocracy slowly wrestling away the rights of its subjects in the name of God and country. A young woman lost and confused in an oppressive society. A masked, mysterious, intelligent man fighting for long forgotten freedom. Somewhere in these dark images is an idea that Notre Dame relates to. From the elegant, alliterative soliloquies to the hellishly brutal violence, it’s a film of great performances, beautiful and disturbing images and stirring moments. But behind these, it’s a film of ideas, and ideas are bulletproof.

High School Musical

At first you may seem skeptical that this is a Notre Dame Cult Classic; it is a musical set in high school and aren’t we non-musical college students? Well let’s note the evidence that this Disney trilogy is indeed a cult classic here on campus. On average, one in four Notre Dame girls owns at least one copy of “High School Musical.”

Then there’s the sheer existence of “High School Musical”-themed parties. And, though there is only one confirmed case, the presence of Zac Efron’s face on throw pillows on futons in common rooms. These three factors alone are enough to establish this High School Musical Romp as a Classic. If you’re still skeptical, walk into a room full of people and yell “What team?!” If anyone answers “Wildcats,” then this choice as a cult classic is clearly justified.

Rudy

Does this even need an explanation? “Rudy” is the quintessential underdog story. It is the true story of a young man from a small, working-class town who dreams of playing football at the University of Notre Dame. No one believes in

him, not even his father or his brothers, except his friend Pete. But he proves everyone wrong and wins the hearts and respect of many along the way. The story is heartwarming and inspiring and has a great soundtrack. Oh yeah, did I mention it takes place at Notre Dame?

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IRISH INSIDER

Monday, November 9, 2009

THE
OBSERVER

Navy 23, Notre Dame 21

Home invasion

Navy edges Irish for second straight win in Notre Dame Stadium

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Jimmy Clausen set career-highs in pass attempts (51), completions (37) and passing yards (452), and a new school record of completions, Golden Tate made nine catches for 132 yards and a touchdown and Michael Floyd returned to the field for Notre Dame.

The numbers appear to be from a Notre Dame rout, but the Irish were unable to come back against Navy Saturday, falling 23-21. Notre Dame was in contention for a BCS berth heading into Saturday's match-up, but Navy's victory effectively ended that hope. The Irish also fell to 6-3 as the Midshipmen moved to 7-3.

"I think it came down to red-zone production for us," Irish coach Charlie Weis said Saturday afternoon, and he was right. Notre Dame scored on only two of their six chances in the red zone.

As in the Irish style this season, Notre Dame worked on making a comeback with less than a minute left. After the Irish recovered an onside kick, Clausen found Tate for a 31-yard touchdown pass to make the score 23-21 with 24 seconds left in the game. The following onside kick went out of bounds, however, and Navy left South Bend with their second straight win at Notre Dame Stadium.

Navy quarterback Ricky Dobbs passed for 56 yards and rushed for 102 in the game, second to fullback Vince Murray's 158. Going into the game, Weis knew Murray would be a threat.

"Well, I think the first thing you have to do is stop the fullback," Weis said. "That's where the whole defense starts, with stopping the fullback. He had too many yards, some of them easy yards, and he had a couple of big runs."

Where Notre Dame did outdo Navy was in game stats, including going the entire game without once punting.

On top of Clausen's impressive career highs in attempts, completions and passing yards, he had one interception and threw for two touchdowns. His 452 passing yards



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish sophomore wide receiver Michael Floyd reaches for the ball in the fourth quarter of Notre Dame's 23-21 loss to Navy Saturday. The upset loss to the Midshipmen at home was the second in a row for the Irish.

rank as the fourth highest in a single game in Notre Dame history and are the most by an Irish signal caller since Brady Quinn threw for 467 against BYU in 2005.

As good as the Clausen-orchestrated offense was,

Navy's triple-option offense ruled the field.

"Their offense did great today and executed their game plan," Clausen said. "I give a lot of credit to defense and

their coach, their all their players."

Tate also put up strong numbers in the game, most coming out of the second half where he had eight catches and 127 of his 132 yards.

Michael Floyd, playing in his first game since breaking his clavicle against Michigan

State on Sept. 19, had 10 receptions for 141 yards and a touchdown, tying his career high in receptions.

Leading the Irish defense Saturday was Brian Smith with 10 tackles, followed by Sergio Brown and Kyle McCarthy with nine and Ian Williams with eight.

Notre Dame could not cross the 50-yard line on its first possession when senior wide receiver Robby Parris fumbled a reception that was recovered by Navy. From there, Dobbs marched the Midshipmen down the field to score and Navy led 7-0.

Despite moving the ball well, Notre Dame failed to score in the first half. Freshman kicker Nick Tausch attempted a field goal from the Navy 24 and missed wide left, leaving Notre Dame still

behind 7-0. The Midshipmen began the second quarter with another touchdown on Murray's 25-yard run to make it 14-0 at halftime.

The Irish finally got on the board with 5:03 left in the third quarter after junior halfback Robert Hughes made it over the goal line for a touchdown. However, Navy responded with one of their own when Dobbs threw a 52-yard pass to junior wide receiver Greg Jones to increase their lead to 21-7.

Sophomore cornerback Robert Blanton apparently thought Jones was an ineligible receiver, and as a result Jones was wide open on the play.

The Irish finally started to rack up points late in the fourth quarter. Floyd caught a

12-yard touchdown pass with 4:46 left to make it 21-14. After a key defensive stop that forced a Navy punt, the Irish started a new drive at their own 13-yard line with time running out. Their success was cut short, however, when Navy sacked Clausen twice, the second time for a safety with a minute left in the game.

Weis felt along the same lines as his players in terms of correcting mistakes and looking ahead. Not only is he prepared to fix his team's mistakes from Saturday, but Weis is also ready to look to next week.

"Right now that's the only thing you are chasing," he said. "You can't be worrying about two or three games down the line, you've got to worry about Pittsburgh at 8 Saturday night."

Ranked Notre Dame teams had defeated unranked Navy teams 41 straight times, a streak dating back to 1936.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

player of the game

Vince Murray
Navy fullback

Murray gashed the Irish defense for 158 yards and a touchdown, averaging 11.3 yards per carry.

stat of the game

2 of 6

The number of red zone opportunities the Notre Dame offense scored on thanks to turnovers and failed conversions.

play of the game

Craig Schaefer's sack of Jimmy Clausen in the end zone

The safety put Navy ahead 23-14 with 1:00 left and ended any serious hope on a Notre Dame comeback.

quote of the game

"People make mistakes. I mean, this game was a mistake."

Ian Williams
Irish defensive tackle

report card

- B** **quarterbacks:** Jimmy Clausen threw for a career-high 452 yards, but couldn't lead the Irish offense into the end zone often enough and had a critical fumble.
- B** **running backs:** Notre Dame rarely ran the ball against the Midshipmen but Theo Riddick was impressive in his five carries. Robert Hughes never got going on the ground but had 59 receiving yards.
- B+** **receivers:** Golden Tate and Michael Floyd each had more than 100 yards and did their jobs against the Navy corners, although Floyd looked a little rusty at times. Robby Parris' fumble was a huge momentum shift.
- C-** **offensive line:** Against a much smaller Navy defense the line of scrimmage was not controlled, and the two sacks of Clausen came on the most critical plays of the game.
- C** **defensive line:** Vince Murray and Ricky Dobbs gashed the Notre Dame defense early, in particular up the middle. The unit improved as the game went on but struggled early.
- C+** **linebackers:** Brian Smith had a career-high 10 tackles and Harrison Smith had a nice game at linebacker. There seemed to be missed assignments defending the option and Navy had 348 yards rushing.
- C-** **defensive backs:** This unit struggled helping out in run support, although Sergio Brown had nine tackles (but several misses). Greg Jones was uncovered on his huge touchdown catch.
- D-** **special teams:** Nick Tausch missed both field goal attempts after making his last 14. John Goodman was solid returning punts and Theo Riddick had some nice moves on kickoff return duty.
- F** **coaching:** Losing to Navy twice at home is simply unacceptable, and much of the blame for the red zone failures has to go to play-calling. Turnovers, miscommunication and penalties are all signs of a poorly coached team.
- 1.96** **overall:** A disastrous performance for a team that should have soundly beaten Navy.

adding up the numbers

- 73** Years since an unranked Navy team had defeated a ranked Notre Dame team, a streak of 41 consecutive games.
- 4** Number of times the Irish failed to score a point while in the red zone against the Midshipmen.
- 37** Completions for Jimmy Clausen out of 51 attempts, the most in Notre Dame history.
- 2** Field goals missed by Nick Tausch after the freshman kicker had converted a school record 14 straight.
- 160** Passes without an interception for Clausen until Navy linebacker Ram Vela's pick in the fourth quarter.
- 5** Consecutive games with a touchdown reception for receiver Golden Tate.
- 141** Yards for sophomore receiver Michael Floyd in his first game back since breaking his clavicle against Michigan State.
- 0** Number of punts for Notre Dame in the game despite scoring just 21 points.



GRACE KENESEY/The Observer

Notre Dame fans react following Navy's 23-21 upset over the Irish Saturday. Ranked Notre Dame teams had won 41 straight games over unranked Midshipmen squads, a streak dating back to 1936.

Irish caught looking ahead

The players won't say it. The coaches won't say it. Nobody within with the Notre Dame football program is admitting it, but to anyone who follows sports, it's fairly obvious what happened to Notre Dame on Saturday.



Sam Werner

Associate Sports Editor

The Irish fell into the prototypical trap game. Next weekend's showdown in Pittsburgh was supposed to be the make-or-break game. It was all set up perfectly to be two top 20 teams nationally broadcast in primetime.

Except the Irish forgot about that pesky little Navy team that always plays Notre Dame tough. Who could really blame them? Navy had only beaten Notre Dame once in the past 45 years.

Except that one time was two years ago, and many of the players on Notre Dame's roster played in that game. This team, more than any Irish squad of the past half-century, should not have underestimated what Navy was capable of.

The quotes from after the game were eerily reminiscent of the interviews after the loss to Syracuse last season, when the usually fiery Golden Tate said he felt the attitude was "Eh."

"I think it did feel a little flat," Tate said after Saturday's loss. "I'm not sure why. I definitely did feel it, but I'm not sure why we felt that way, why I felt that way."

The worst part of Saturday's loss, though, isn't that it was the second loss to Navy in the past three years, or the fact that this year's junior and senior classes will never see a win against Navy in Notre Dame Stadium during their time as a student.

No, the worst part was that, even though the loss was unexpected, it was hardly shocking.

The Irish had been talking a tightrope all season, and so far had come out on the winning end more often than not.

Saturday, though, all the woes that had haunted the Irish all season showed up once again.

First, the red zone production was abysmal. Including Saturday's game, the Irish have scored touchdowns on only 51 percent of their trips inside the opponent's 20-yard line. On Saturday alone, Notre Dame found points on only two of the six red zone chances.

Next, the run defense, and defense in general, was gashed repeatedly. The Midshipmen rushed for a staggering 348 yards against Notre Dame. A run defense that looked to have improved over the past few weeks regressed back to early-season form.

It would be one thing if the Irish were burned by Navy quarterback Ricky Dobbs or one of the Midshipmen's speedy tailbacks, but the play that seemed to give the Irish fits was a simple dive play to the fullback. Vince Murray led the Midshipmen in rushing, with 158 yards on only 14 carries, almost all of them right up the middle.

Poor tackling, another bugaboo for the Irish all season, showed up in spades Saturday. How many

times did a Navy player appear to be stopped, only to rattle off a few more yards after initial contact.

Against Navy's triple option, it appeared that Notre Dame's struggling pass defense would get a break, and the Midshipmen did pass only three times all day. On one of those passes, though, the Irish got burned for a 52-yard touchdown pass where it appeared the Irish simply neglected to cover the Navy receiver.

On the other side of the ball, the offensive line play was suspect as well. It's one thing to give up pressure when USC is rushing only four defensive linemen, but to give up consecutive sacks — and one safety — to a Navy line that weighs in at an average of just 262.3 pounds is simply unacceptable for a team with legitimate BCS aspirations.

Despite all of this, Notre Dame still had a chance to win. I'll admit that when the Irish regained possession in the waning minutes down only seven, I thought that Jimmy Clausen would lead yet another fourth quarter comeback.

It wasn't to be, though, and the loss obviously raises more questions about Charlie Weis' job security. In all likelihood, those questions won't be answered until the end of the season.

One thing is certain, though. The Irish won't be getting distracted by any BCS talk for the rest of this season.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

Tune in to the Irish Insider podcast at ndsmcobserver.com/podcasts.

Offense fails to convert in red zone



Junior quarterback Jimmy Clausen waits for the snap near the Navy end zone during Saturday's 23-21 loss to the Midshipmen. Notre Dame scored on just two of their six trips into the red zone, which included an interception and a fumble.

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

With the return of Michael Floyd to the lineup after sitting out the last five games because a broken collarbone, Notre Dame's offense looked, at times, unstoppable. But once again, the Irish offense just couldn't get it done when it mattered most.

Jimmy Clausen and company were a horrific 2-for-6 inside the red zone against Navy, including two turnovers and two missed field goals.

In his postgame press conference, Irish coach Charlie Weis acknowledged that his team's poor performance down near the goal line was the difference between winning and losing.

"Getting the ball down into

"Getting the ball down into position to score was not the issue; it was scoring that was the issue."

Charlie Weis
Irish head coach

position to score was not the issue; it was scoring that was the issue," he said.

With the offense sputtering and the defense unable to make stops for much of the game, it seemed as though things couldn't possibly get worse the Irish. They did.

After hitting a Notre Dame record 14 consecutive field goals, kicker Nick Tausch missed his only two attempts against the Midshipmen, tries from 30 and 41 yards.

This would come back to haunt the Irish. After failing to convert on three plays from inside the five-yard line, Weis was faced with a tough choice on fourth-and-goal down 14-0 early in the second quarter. He elected to go for it and the Irish turned the ball over on downs after quarterback

Jimmy Clausen's pass fell incomplete in the end zone.

"We had missed a couple field goals in the game, and sometimes that taints you," Weis said of the decision. "I thought that the possessions in the game, especially they were up two scores, but the two scores were touchdowns, I think the possessions in the game and the time of possession was going to warrant that we were going to need some points."

What really cost the Irish down the stretch were uncharacteristic turnovers that cost them valuable scoring opportunities.

Down by two touchdowns late in the third quarter, the Irish were threatening to close the gap as they made their way down to Navy's nine-yard line. But instead of sliding down or getting out of bounds to avoid contact as he has done all season, Clausen got impatient, taking on a Navy defender inside the two-yard line and fumbling the ball after taking a huge hit.

"I just got hit. A guy made

a good play, and I fumbled the ball," Clausen said of the play.

On the next possession, the Irish once again drove deep into Navy territory before turning the ball over. Clausen's pass, intended for Floyd, who wasn't expecting it, ricocheted off of Floyd's back into the arms of Midshipmen linebacker Ram Vela.

"Yeah, we were trying to get a double cadence and we just miscommunicated," Clausen said. "He was blocking the screen, and I was just trying to throw a slant, and it went off his back and a guy made a good play on it."

As good as Notre Dame's offense is outside of the red zone, it won't matter if its woes in the red zone continue. Next week doesn't figure to be any easier as the Irish travel to take on a Pittsburgh defense that is allowing just 17 points per game.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

scoring summary

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Navy	7	7	7	2	23
Notre Dame	0	0	7	14	21

First quarter

Navy 7, Notre Dame 0
Ricky Dobbs 1-yd run (Joe Buckley kick) with 7:15 remaining.
Drive: 12 plays, 51 yards, 6:08 elapsed.

Second quarter

Navy 14, Notre Dame 0
Vince Murray 25-yd run (Buckley kick) with 14:56 remaining.
Drive: 7 plays, 76 yards, 2:54 elapsed.

Third quarter

Navy 14, Notre Dame 7
Robert Hughes 1-yd run (Nick Tausch kick) with 5:03 remaining.
Drive: 10 plays, 80 yards, 3:57 elapsed.

Navy 21, Notre Dame 7
Greg Jones 52-yd pass from Dobbs (Buckley kick) with 3:29 remaining.
Drive: 3 plays, 72 yards, 1:34 elapsed.

Fourth quarter

Navy 21, Notre Dame 14
Michael Floyd 12-yd pass from Jimmy Clausen (Tausch kick) with 4:46 remaining.
Drive: 9 plays, 90 yards, 1:48 elapsed.

Navy 23, Notre Dame 14
Clausen tackled by Craig Schaefer in end zone for a safety

Navy 23, Notre Dame 21
Golden Tate 31-yd pass from Clausen (Tausch kick) with 0:24 remaining.
Drive: 3 plays, 66 yards, 0:36 elapsed.

statistics

total yards			
ND	512	NA	404
rushing yards			
ND	60	NA	348
passing yards			
ND	452	NA	56
return yards			
ND	114	NA	31

time of possession

ND	27:41
NA	32:19

passing			
Clausen	37-51-452	Dobbs	2-3-56
rushing			
Riddick	5-35	Murray	14-158
Hughes	7-22	Dobbs	31-102
Floyd	1-8	Teich	5-52
Tate	2-3	Greene	5-36
receiving			
Floyd	10-141	Jones	1-52
Tate	9-132	Greene	1-4
Hughes	6-59		
Parris	5-28		
Ragone	2-33		

Notes: Rudolph's injury status unknown

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

♦Sophomore tight end Kyle Rudolph left Saturday's game in the second half with what trainers initially thought was a broken collarbone. Irish coach Charlie Weis said Sunday that initial x-rays came back negative and the medical staff was still evaluating him.

"They x-rayed him and that came back negative," Weis said. "He went out and walked out of the locker room with a sling, but I don't know what the status of that is yet."

♦Weis also said Sunday that sophomore quarterback Dayne Crist's surgery on his ACL went very well Friday.

"It went very, very well, better than we would have expected. Usually when you get an ACL there's a lot of residual damage along with that, and it was as clean as could be. There was no cartilage, no other ligaments, no bone," Weis said. "It only took about an hour to fix, and the prognosis is very good, probably a time frame faster than we normally would have expected based off of how little damage there was."

♦Clausen's 37 completions against the Midshipmen easily beat the previous record of 33, set by Joe Theismann against USC in 1970 and Brady Quinn against Michigan State in 2005. The junior's 452 passing yards were the most since Quinn

threw for 467 against BYU in 2005.

♦The loss dropped Weis's record against teams with winning records to 8-19. Weis is also just 1-13 against teams ranked the in the top 25.

♦Irish defensive players had different reactions to giving up 348 yards on the ground to Navy. "They out-schemed us, they just played harder," said junior defensive tackle Ian Williams. "I played my heart out, but I guess they just had a better scheme than we did."

Senior safety Kyle McCarthy indicated the failure was more in execution than the scheme.

"We have drilled all week that we have to take care of the fullback. That was a big part of

our game plan and I guess we just didn't execute it," McCarthy said. "We made any adjustments that we felt we needed, and Navy just beat us; there is really no excuse."

Weis sided with McCarthy when asked about the question Sunday.

"I did hear quite contrasting answers to the same question. I think that question was presented to Ian, it was also presented to Kyle McCarthy, and from what I understand, Kyle McCarthy's answer was quite different, where he said it had nothing to do with the scheme," Weis said. "So there's a reason why one guy is a captain and one guy is not."

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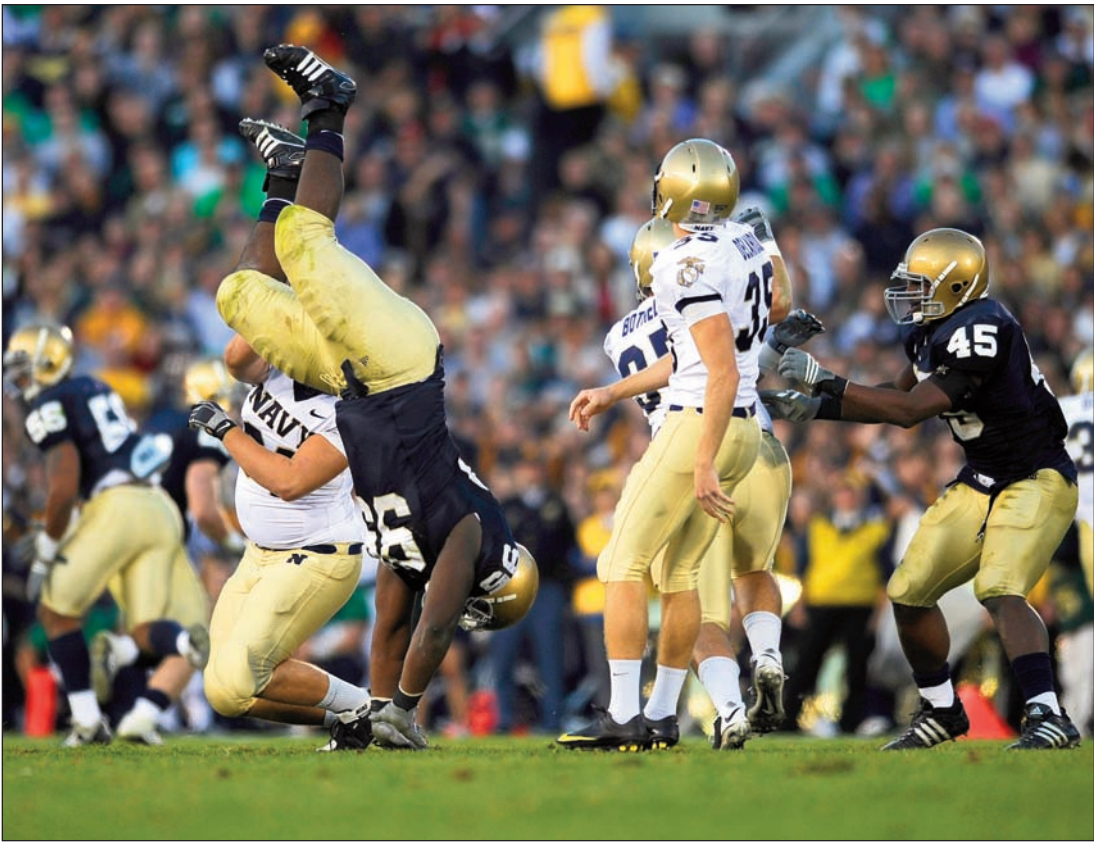


VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Too little too late

Notre Dame had no trouble moving the ball against the Midshipmen, never even punting. But as soon as the Irish were near the Navy end zone, everything that could go wrong did go wrong. A failed fourth-down attempt, a fumble at the two-yard line, two missed field goals and an interception off the back of Michael Floyd all dismantled Notre Dame drives that looked as if they would result in scores. The Midshipmen rushed for 348 yards, gashing the Irish up the middle and often pitching to uncovered backs. Despite numerous miscues, Notre Dame still had a chance to force overtime in the closing minutes. This time, however, there was no dramatic comeback, as Clausen was sacked on third and fourth downs to preserve the Navy win. A late onside kick recovery and touchdown pass from Jimmy Clausen to Golden Tate gave a glimmer of hope, but with the loss Notre Dame’s BCS chances went down the drain.

For more photos, check out the photo gallery at ndsmcobserver.com



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer



COLEMAN COLLINS/The Observer



COLEMAN COLLINS/The Observer

Clockwise from top: Sophomore defensive tackle Ethan Johnson leaps in effort to block a Navy field goal, freshman running back Theo Riddick races downfield, junior defensive tackle Ian Williams is upended trying to block a punt, sophomore wide receiver Michael Floyd runs after a reception, senior receiver Robby Parris fumbles.



By ADRIANA PRATT
Assistant Scene Editor

Thursday afternoon, Mark Weber, producer, director and editor of "Strong Bodies Fight," sat down at Decio Café for an in-depth interview and look at his documentary. "Strong Bodies Fight" trails the journey of five Bengal Bouts boxers who traveled to Bangladesh in May of 2008 to witness the results of the Bengal Bouts' efforts. "Strong Bodies Fight" coincided with Weber's senior thesis as a PLS and Film major and the version aired Friday was a "rough cut." The film was also edited by William Donaruma, produced by Patrick Ryan and Tom Suddes and shot by John Klein.

Observer: Why was it important to travel to Bangladesh to make this film?

Weber: The impact of Bengal Bouts has always been there but it's been in Bangladesh. Our goal from the beginning was to really transform this connection from just a check that we send over every year to a relationship and really foster a sense of solidarity with the people of Bangladesh. ... You could hear the children's voices, you could reach out and touch their hands. That experience, I think, has already and will continue to change the Bengal Bouts not in the sense of the impact that we make over there, but really on the impact that we make over here on the Notre Dame students.

Observer: Do you think this gives the boxers a deeper incentive to look at why they're doing what they're doing?

Weber: Yeah, I think it makes it more fulfilling. For years all we could do is throw out stats and sometimes pictures of poverty and that was really the focus, too. That's another major shift we see in the film. Our expectations of Bangladesh and what the country was like in general were very bleak. They were what you see in the media of starving children and despair and hopelessness. But what we found when we went over there is that there is extreme poverty, but there's not despair. There's hope, there's strength, there's joy. ... I think by

meeting these people we realized that it's not just us fighting for them. They're fighting for their lives, the Holy Cross Missionaries are fighting on their behalf. This is kind of one fight, one team that is coming together for this mission. These people are really agents of change. ... We are investing in educational initiatives that are going to empower people to become agents of change in their own society.

Holy Cross missionaries — the priests, the nuns and the brothers — are really doing very powerful work. Our mission is just ... being a part of their mission. It's these three distinct groups of people, these athletes from Notre Dame, these missionaries from all over the world and the people of Bangladesh, all coming together in one fight.

Observer: Did the Catholic missionaries have a hard time making their presence welcome in Bangladesh?

Weber: There's a really interesting religious dynamic there. A (large) percent of the country is Muslim. There's a dramatic interfaith disparity, yet there seems to be very good relations between the religions. There seems to be a harmony there that is quite surprising when you first go over. As Americans we were wondering about how we were going to be received in a Muslim country at this time in history. It's not a great time for Americans in Muslim countries, but we were embraced and welcomed in this country as if we were family and it was really incredible. I think Holy Cross is a testament to that ... I think the fact that it is such a poor country seems to have brought people together from different religions. The fact that everybody is striving for development has kind of allowed the different religions to put aside their difference and work for developments. Sure there are exceptions, but that was the overwhelming feel.

Observer: Where did the idea for this film come from?

Weber: The whole development of all of this stuff was always a team effort. The ideas (for the film and to go to Bangladesh) started taking root my sophomore year. The first action I ever took was staying on campus over fall break. I started meeting with people ... and I basically said, 'you know, we've been doing this for 80 years ... Students have never gone. It's time to go. I'm a film major and I think

we should make a film about it.' ... I didn't know what my capabilities were, I just had a camera ... The success of the project was taking the idea and surrounding the idea with a team that was really talented and passionate about the project. ... Some of the footage we got is just priceless stuff. All our music was done by a local guy, Gene Ort (and) his company.

Observer: Are you going to sell the film?

Weber: We're structuring the business side of the film so that a percentage of all the profits are going back to the Notre Dame [Bengal Bouts]. All that money at the end of the year goes to support Bangladesh. We wouldn't be doing this to make money.

Our goal is definitely to submit this to film festivals and to talk to TV networks and to sell it on DVD. The goal underlining all those things is to have as many people see the work as possible. The reason for that is that, from our experience and from feedback that we've already gotten, this is a story so unique, so inspiring, that by showing it to people we can help inspire people to do good in the world and also share this understanding that it's not just about aiding other people but empowering them.

Observer: What is a challenge you faced while you were making the film?

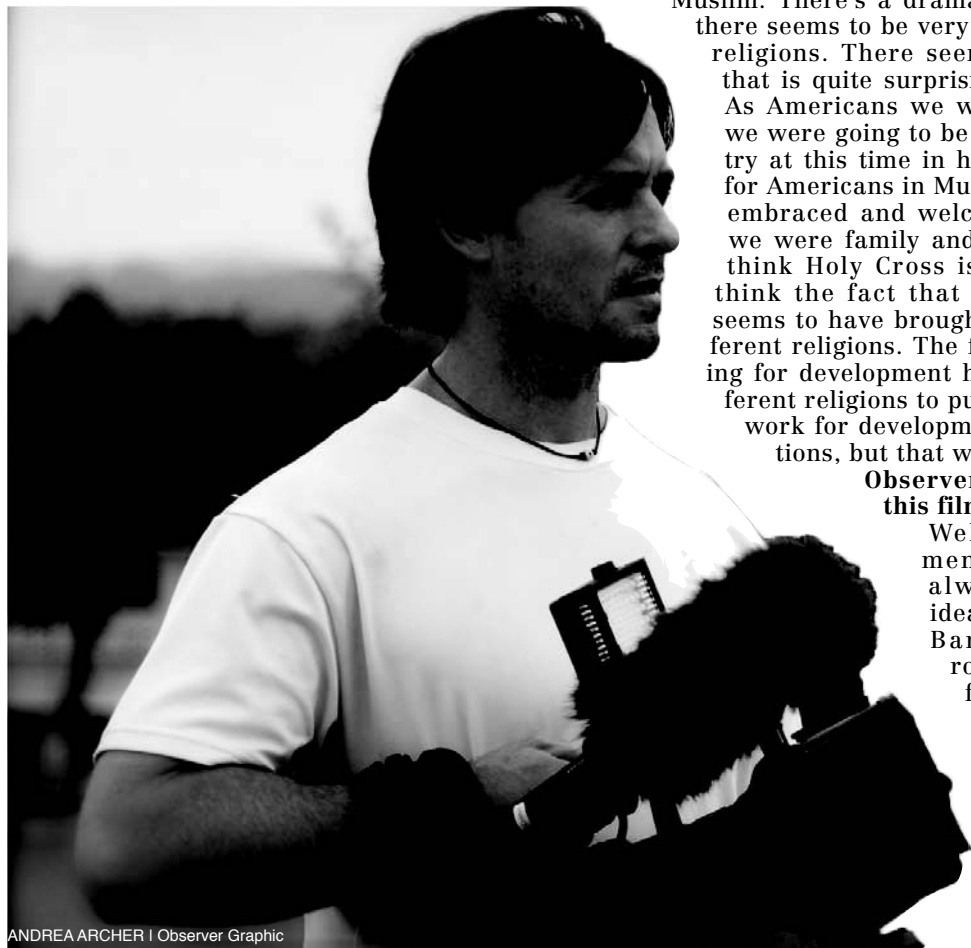
Weber: There was a major technical challenge of shooting in Bangladesh. Having those big cameras, we would go to places and not have power or power would go off for hours at a time. And when you're shooting in HD it's not like you have limitless tapes. You have to download to computers and then wipe those tapes and start over. The major technical challenge was keeping our equipment powered and downloading our footage before we had to do another shoot.

We were on car rides on bumpy dirt roads for five hours. ... There were times when we'd be going on a road that would go through water and we had to take out all of the equipment, otherwise the car would sink. So we'd have to take out all our equipment, walk across this bridge, and then put it back in. Sometimes we had to do that a couple times on the way to our destinations.

Observer: What are your career goals? Are you looking to make more documentaries in the future?

Weber: I would define myself currently as an entrepreneur filmmaker. I have no idea where that's going to lead me, but those are my passions. I'm project-oriented, I would love to work for myself someday, whether it be in a film company or some other company. Being an entrepreneur and being a film producer are very similar. It's kind of like the day-in and day-out of boxing practice. You don't know exactly how everything is going to work out in a tournament or where you're going to go. You gotta love the day in and day out. You might step into that tournament and fight for six minutes and lose and not play the rest of the tournament, so you have to love the day-in and day-out. That's what I love about filmmaking. Even if this film isn't successful, we've created something really awesome and something that we're really proud of.

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apratt@nd.edu



ANDREA ARCHER | Observer Graphic

NFL

Benson passes century mark in Bengals' win

Cincinnati remains undefeated against AFC North opponents; Colts escape Texans after missed field goal

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Done with all the drama, the Bengals are grinding their way into the playoff conversation.

Cedric Benson topped 100 yards again on Sunday, and the Bengals scored on their first three possessions, setting up a 17-7 victory over Baltimore that kept surprising Cincinnati atop the AFC North and undefeated against division foes.

With a win next Sunday in Pittsburgh, the Bengals (6-2) would be in position to make the playoffs for only the second time in the past 19 years. They won the division in 2005 with a team that still had a lot to learn.

"We're much more mature," said quarterback Carson Palmer, who improved to 8-3 career against the Ravens. "We're a better team. We were a good team back then; we were kind of young and dumb. This team has more guys that understand how rare this opportunity is."

Cincinnati would be in control of the division with a win at Pittsburgh (5-2), which plays Denver on Monday night. The Bengals are 4-0 in division games, including a two-game sweep of the Ravens (4-4).

"That's pretty cool," receiver Chad Ochocinco said. "I like being in the driver's seat. Today was a statement game. I want every game to be a statement game."

The Ravens have frittered away every advantage they gained by starting the season 3-0. There's been a lot of self-destruction involved — dropped passes, missed kicks and penalties galore.

"We're not in a great spot," said Joe Flacco, who was frustrated all afternoon and threw a pair of interceptions. "We're in a tough spot."

They've been at their worst against the Bengals, who took advantage of three Ravens penalties to pull off a last-minute touchdown in Baltimore on Oct. 11, a 17-14 victory that gained national notice. By sweeping the series, Cincinnati suggested it has staying power.

"We're not surprised, we're really not," safety Chris Crocker said. "Everyone on the outside is, 'Oh, the Bengals got another one, but they'll fall apart any time.'"

They were solid throughout on Sunday.

Benson was coming off the best game of his career: 189 yards against his former Bears team, a dominating performance that sent Cincinnati into its bye on an upbeat note. Refreshed by a weekend off, he was at it again, running for 117

yards and a touchdown.

Up 17-0 at halftime, it was a matter of holding on. The Bengals did, with a lot of help from the self-destructive Ravens, who had 80 yards in penalties and missed a field goal. Their last chance slipped away when Flacco was sacked on three consecutive plays.

Last season, the Ravens went 11-5 and made the playoffs as a wild card, losing to Pittsburgh in the AFC title game. By losing four of their last five, they've made themselves a long shot to win the division.

"None of us played well," defensive end Trevor Pryce said. "They had (solid) techniques and played physical. And they are a physical team — don't let anybody tell you they aren't."

Cincinnati scored on its first three possessions — touchdown, touchdown, field goal — against a defense that has struggled against the run lately, a surprising change. The Ravens hadn't allowed a 100-yard rusher for 39 consecutive games, a streak that Benson broke by piling up 120 in that win at Baltimore.

Now, the Ravens have allowed a 100-yard rusher in three of the last four games. They've also hurt themselves on big plays — two pass interference penalties extended Cincinnati's second touchdown drive.

That's not all.

Ray Rice's 1-yard touchdown run cut it to 17-7 early in the fourth quarter, and the Ravens got their chance to make it close when Ed Reed stripped Chad Ochocinco after a catch at midfield. Steve Hauschka hooked a 38-yard field goal try with 6:12 left.

In the past, the Bengals would have been the ones self-destructing.

"They're not like last year, that's clear," Rice said.

Colts 20, Texans 17

The Colts have no problems with close games — as long as they keep winning them.

Peyton Manning delivered another milestone performance, Joseph Addai produced a second straight winning score, and the Colts found another unconventional way to win when Houston's Kris Brown missed a 42-yard field goal as time expired, keeping Indy's winning streak intact.

"I think that's the mark of a great football team," center Jeff Saturday said, referring to the close calls. "We've won eight games so far, and we're ahead in our division, which is really our main focus and goal."



Ravens fullback Le'Ron McClain is swarmed by a group of Bengals' defenders in their 17-7 loss Sunday. The Bengals sit atop the AFC North after eight games this season.

The implications of Sunday's victory are monumental.

Indy is the fourth team in league history with 17 straight regular-season wins. New England did it twice — winning a record 21 straight from 2006-08 and 18 in a row from 2003-04. Chicago won 17 straight from 1933-34.

Next week, the Patriots come to town with a chance to prevent Indy from matching its original record.

There were plenty of accolades to go around for the Colts on Sunday, too.

Jim Caldwell became the NFL's first rookie coach to start 8-0 since Patsy Clark in 1930.

Manning, the three-time MVP, tied Hall of Famer Fran Tarkenton for fourth in career victories (125) and became the first player in league history to throw for 40,000 yards in one decade. Tight end Dallas Clark caught 14 passes, the third-highest single-game total by an NFL tight end, and with eight receptions, Reggie Wayne moved past Hall of Famer Raymond Berry and into second on the Colts' career reception list.

A week after rallying the Colts with a fourth-quarter TD pass, Addai caught a touchdown pass, then ran 2 yards for the winning score with 7:11 to go.

The biggest impact: Indy holds a commanding 3 1/2-game lead in the AFC South over second-place Houston (5-4) and is 3-0 against its division rivals. The Texans (5-4) dropped to 1-14 all time against the Colts, including 0-8 in Indianapolis.

But this loss was easily the most frustrating of the series.

After shrugging off the Colts early run and fighting back to take the lead, the Texans had two chances to win it or force overtime. Both failed. Matt Schaub, under pressure from Gary Brackett, was intercepted by Clint Session in Colts territory with 2:13 to go.

Then after forcing a rare three-and-out, Matt Schaub moved Houston into scoring position again only to see Brown push his field goal attempt to the left, leaving some teammates sprawled on the field in disbelief.

"I missed the kick," Brown said. "I was going through my routine, and I felt good walking on the field. I take a lot of pride in kicking, especially in these situations. To have that happen is very disappointing."

It was a strange day indeed. Though Indy dominated early, running 37 of the game's first 44 plays, the Colts couldn't finish drives and never led by more than 13-0.

Things got really weird late in the first half.

Houston lost one scoring chance when a replay reversal ruled Ryan Moats had fumbled at the Colts 1. Further review gave the Colts a touchback instead of putting the ball at the Indy 1.

And then on the final play, Brown's 56-yard field goal attempt was blocked. One problem: the Colts called timeout to put a returner underneath the goal post, and when Brown got a second chance, he knocked it through to make it 13-3.

"Every decision that is made is mine," Caldwell said. "You want to know if I wish I had it back? That's just the way it goes sometimes."

Houston pulled a page out of the Colts' playbook in the second half.

The Texans held the ball for all but three plays in the third quarter, getting a 1-yard TD pass from Schaub to Moats, who replaced the fumble-prone Steve Slaton in the starting lineup, and a 1-yard run from Slaton to take the lead on the first play of the fourth quarter.

Manning responded by moving the Colts 61 yards in eight plays, handing off to Addai for his 2-yard score with 7:11 to go. Manning was 34 of 50 for 318 yards — his seventh 300-yard game this season.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

FOR RENT

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PERSONAL

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, we can help. For more information, visit Notre Dame's website: http://csap.nd.edu

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-17819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit ND's website at: http://pregnancysupport@nd.edu

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PART TIME WORK \$14.25 base-appt., no experience needed, customer sales/service, 574-273-3835.

Part time help needed at UP Mall. Must be good with kids and have clean driving record! Email resume and days available to: northcoastrr@gmail.com

It means that I, like God, do not play with dice and I don't believe in coincidences.

We are being buried beneath the avalanche of your inadequacies, Mr. Creedy!

No, what you have are bullets, and the hope that when your guns are empty I'm no longer be standing, because if I am you'll all be dead before you've reloaded.

There are of course those who do not want us to speak. I suspect even now, orders are being shouted into telephones, and men with guns will soon be on their way. Why? Because while the truncheon may be used in lieu of conversation, words will always retain their power. Words offer the means to meaning, and for those who will listen, the enunciation of truth.

But if you see what I see, if you feel as I feel, and if you would seek as I seek, then I ask you to stand beside me 1 year from tonight, outside the gates of Parliament, and together we shall give them a 5th of Nov. that shall never be forgot.

AROUND THE NATION

Monday, November 9, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Football AP Top 25

	team	previous
1	Florida	1
2	Texas	2
3	Alabama	3
4	TCU	6
5	Cincinnati	4
6	Boise State	5
7	Georgia Tech	10
8	Pittsburgh	14
9	LSU	9
10	Ohio State	15
11	Southern California	12
12	Miami (Fla.)	16
13	Houston	13
14	Oregon	7
15	Iowa	8
16	Utah	17
17	Oklahoma State	18
18	Arizona	21
19	Penn State	11
20	Virginia Tech	22
21	Wisconsin	24
22	BYU	25
23	South Florida	NR
24	Clemson	NR
25	Stanford	NR

NCAA Football USA Today Top 25 Coaches' Poll

	team	previous
1	Florida	1
2	Texas	2
3	Alabama	3
4	TCU	4
5	Cincinnati	7
6	Boise State	5
7	Georgia Tech	11
8	Ohio State	12
9	Pittsburgh	14
10	Southern California	13
11	LSU	9
12	Houston	15
13	Iowa	6
14	Utah	16
15	Miami (Fla.)	17
16	Oregon	8
17	Penn State	10
18	Oklahoma State	18
19	Arizona	19
20	Wisconsin	22
21	Virginia Tech	24
22	BYU	25
23	West Virginia	NR
24	South Florida	NR
25	Auburn	NR

NSCAA/adidas Division I Women's Soccer Top 10

	team	points
1	Stanford	825
2	Portland	791
3	UCLA	752
4	NOTRE DAME	699
5	North Carolina	690
6	Florida State	660
7	Boston College	633
8	Florida	557
9	UCF	553
10	Wake Forest	479

around the dial

NHL
Kings at Blackhawks
8 p.m., Versus

NFL
Steelers at Broncos
8:30 p.m., ESPN

NCAA FOOTBALL



Oklahoma Sooners head football coach Bob Stoops watches a replay of an interception against his team in the second half of a game against Nebraska on Saturday. Oklahoma lost the game 10-3 to the Cornhuskers.

Oklahoma out, Stanford in the top 25

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Over the past decade, Oklahoma has rarely been out of the AP Top 25 and Stanford has rarely been in.

On Sunday, the Sooners and Cardinal sort of swapped places.

Oklahoma dropped out of the college football poll for the first time since 2005, and No. 25 Stanford moved into the rankings for the first time since 2001.

The first six spots were held by major college football's six unbeaten teams, with Florida, Texas and Alabama making up the top three for the second consecutive week. Florida received 39 first-place

votes, Texas received 10 and Alabama 11.

TCU moved up two spots to No. 4, bumping No. 5 Cincinnati and No. 6 Boise State back a spot.

The Horned Frogs have their highest ranking since Oct. 15, 1956, when they were also No. 4.

The top six in the BCS standings were the same as the AP Top 25, except Alabama was second in the BCS standings and Texas was in third.

Oklahoma had managed to stay in the rankings this season while losing three close games without star quarterback Sam Bradford, but Saturday's 10-3 loss at Nebraska dropped the Sooners to 5-4 and out of

the media poll.

Since 2000, the '05 season had been the only one in which Oklahoma spent any time unranked. The Sooners lost two games early and were out of the rankings from mid-September until the final poll. Oklahoma won its bowl game and finished 8-4 that season.

Notre Dame and California also dropped out after losses.

The rest of the top 10 is Georgia Tech at No. 7, followed by Pittsburgh, LSU and Ohio State.

Iowa dropped seven spots to No. 15 after losing for the first time this season, a 17-10 upset at home by Northwestern. The

Hawkeyes fell out of the national championship race but are still in control of their Big Ten title hopes. Iowa and Ohio State play in Columbus on Saturday with a trip to the Rose Bowl on the line.

Stanford (6-3) moved into the rankings after knocking off Oregon 51-42 to become bowl eligible.

"We were confident. There was definitely no fear going into this game," Stanford running back Toby Gerhart said.

The Cardinal finished the 2001 season ranked, but haven't been since. That was also the last season Stanford played in a bowl.

Oregon fell seven spots to No. 14.

IN BRIEF

Bengals' Chris Henry breaks left forearm

CINCINNATI — Bengals receiver Chris Henry wasn't sure whether he'd play again this season after he broke his arm during a 17-7 victory over the Baltimore Ravens on Sunday.

Henry broke his left forearm just above the wrist when he was tackled by cornerback Fabian Washington after a 10-yard reception. Henry's back hit the ground and Washington landed on top of him. A replay showed the forearm bowing slightly.

He knew immediately that the injury was severe.

"I was about to get up and I felt my arm (hurt)," Henry said. "Then I noticed it was broken."

The medical staff put an inflatable cast on the arm and called for a cart to take him for an exam. Henry said he won't know his status for the rest of the season until he sees a specialist on Monday.

Falcons' Hall plans to file complaint to Goodell

ATLANTA — Redskins cornerback DeAngelo Hall says Atlanta coach Mike Smith cursed at him and a Falcons assistant tried to "get some licks in" during a sideline melee Sunday.

Hall said he plans to file a complaint with NFL commissioner Roger Goodell that Smith "cussed me out" and Falcons director of athletic performance Jeff Fish and others "put their hands on me."

Hall said he was trying to pull teammate LaRon Landry away from the Atlanta sideline after Landry was called for a late hit on Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan. Hall and Landry immediately were surrounded by Falcons players and staff members.

Other Washington players joined in, but much of the attention was on Hall, the former Falcons player who had talked all week of being bitter at the way he was treated when traded after the 2007 season. He played in Atlanta for four years and made the Pro Bowl twice.

Peyton Manning reaches 40,000 yards for the decade

INDIANAPOLIS — Peyton Manning is the first NFL quarterback to pass for 40,000 yards in any decade.

Manning needed 19 yards to reach the milestone. He did it on a 5-yard completion to Pierre Garcon in the first quarter of Sunday's game against the Houston Texans.

That could be the first of many accomplishments for Manning on Sunday. If the Colts win, Manning will tie Fran Tarkenton for fourth place on the career wins list for quarterbacks with 125. He also needs four touchdown passes to become the first in league history to throw for 300 in a decade.

Among his accomplishments this season, Manning became the fastest quarterback to 4,000 completions and passed Tarkenton for third place on the career touchdowns list.

NFL

Bucs upset Packers for first victory of season

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Wearing one of those ghastly creamsicle jerseys that are an ugly reminder of Tampa Bay's past, rookie Josh Freeman gave the struggling Buccaneers plenty of reasons to be optimistic about the future.

The third quarterback selected in this year's NFL draft led the previously winless Bucs to a 38-28 victory over the Green Bay Packers in his first start Sunday, ending the league's longest losing streak at 11 games.

Playing with poise that belied his inexperience, Freeman passed for 205 yards and three touchdowns, including a 7-yard throw to Sammie Stroughter on fourth-and-4 for the go-ahead TD with under 5 minutes to play.

"I felt really relaxed," said Freeman, the 17th pick in the draft and the third quarterback taken behind Matthew Stafford and Mark Sanchez.

"I didn't get too high or too low," the 21-year-old said. "I can't say I did anything spectacular. I just played within myself, and when we had opportunities I took them."

Freeman became the youngest quarterback to open a game for the Bucs, who have had 10 different players start at the position since winning the Super Bowl seven seasons ago. He's the third this year.

"That's a great start to how we want to be, how we want to work, how we want to play," said the 33-year-old Morris, who has known Freeman since the rookie was a freshman at Kansas State and Morris was the defensive coordinator there.

"However you do it, it's impressive. His age really doesn't matter at this point. ... He's got to lead us to where we've got to go."

Freeman completed 14 of 31 passes with just one interception. A critical second pick by Green Bay's A.J. Hawk was wiped out by an illegal contact penalty against Hawk during Tampa Bay's go-ahead drive.

Three plays later, Freeman threw 29 yards to Michael Clayton to set up his second TD pass of the day.

"He kept his composure and made plays," Packers linebacker Nick Barnett said.

The Bucs (1-7) are the last team in the NFL to win this season, ending a skid that was the franchise's longest since 1976-77 when they dropped an NFL-record 26 in a row wearing the uniforms the team donned against the Packers.

Aaron Rodgers threw for 266 yards and two touchdowns for Green Bay (4-4). The league's top-rated passer also threw three interceptions and had one returned for a TD that put the game out of reach in the final minute.

Rodgers was also sacked six times, hiking Green Bay's NFL-worst total to 37 in eight games.

"It's pretty frustrating," Rodgers said. "I think our offense and special teams put our defense in a tough position."

In addition to wearing retro uniforms, the Bucs made Hall of Famer Lee Roy Selmon the first inductee into the Ring of Honor at Raymond James Stadium. They trailed 21-17 during the halftime ceremony, but Freeman refused to let them lose.

The rookie threw second-half TD passes to Kellen Winslow and Stroughter, a seventh-round draft pick who was wide open in the right corner of the end zone with 4:14 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Freeman's 2-point conversion pass to Clayton put the Bucs up 31-28. The defense, which had all of its sacks after halftime, ensured victory when Tanard Jackson picked off Rodgers and — instead of going to the ground with under a minute left — weaved 35 yards to a clinching TD.

Rodgers threw a 74-yard TD pass to James Jones on Green Bay's second play from scrimmage, then led an 11-play, 69-yard march that Ryan Grant finished with a 3-yard run that made it 14-7 late in the opening quarter.

Cornerback Elbert Mack, beaten badly on Jones' long touchdown, returned one of

Tampa Bay's interceptions 36 yards to the Packers 8 to set up Freeman's first pro TD pass, a 6-yarder to Derrick Ward.

Trailing 14-7, Tampa Bay's Geno Hayes blocked a punt that

Ronde Barber scooped up and ran 31 yards for his 14th career touchdown. Freeman led a 74-yard field goal drive just before the half, trimming Tampa Bay's deficit to 21-17.

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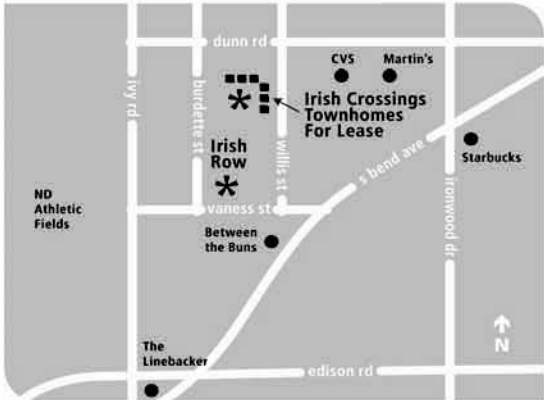
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NFL

Warner throws five touchdowns in victory

Cardinals' quarterback ties career high in win over Bears; Sims-Walker, Jacksonville hold off Kansas City to remain .500

Associated Press

CHICAGO — From five interceptions to five touchdown passes, Kurt Warner's one-week turnaround couldn't have been more emphatic. Nor could the beating the Arizona Cardinals put on the Chicago Bears.

Warner tied a career high by throwing for five touchdowns after getting picked off five times the previous week, Larry Fitzgerald added 123 yards receiving, and the Cardinals easily handled the Bears 41-21 on Sunday.

Warner was at his best after a miserable performance in a 34-21 loss to Carolina. He handled a team that had a chance to sign him as a backup four years ago, matching the record for TD passes by a Bears opponent without getting intercepted.

"So much of this business is how you respond and how you come back," Warner said. "I always want my teammates to know that I'm going to be there every week battling with them. And if I have a bad week, hopefully they can pick me up. If not, I'll try to do my best the next."

Two of his touchdowns went to Fitzgerald, who had his way with Charles Tillman before the cornerback left with a shoulder injury in the second quarter.

"Kurt played just phenomenal again," said Fitzgerald, who has family in Chicago and spent summers here as a child. "He was making the right reads and getting the ball to the guys who were open. When we're clicking like that, it's hard to stop us."

Warner was 22 of 31 for 261 yards and threw touchdown passes on the first four possessions as the Cardinals surged ahead 34-7 after three quarters.

The Bears (4-4) got within 34-21 after Zackary Bowman returned an interception by backup Matt Leinart 39 yards to the Arizona 28, setting up a 20-yard touchdown pass from Jay Cutler to Greg Olsen with 9:04 left. That prompted the Cardinals to put Warner back in the game.

Olsen had five catches for 71 yards and three touchdowns. Otherwise, it was a rough afternoon for Chicago, which is in danger of missing the playoffs for the third straight year.

Tim Hightower ran for 77

yards, Beanie Wells added 72 rushing and the Cardinals' offense racked up 438 yards even though Arizona was missing wide receiver Anquan Boldin.

He missed the game with a sprained right ankle, although he said it was fine.

"I'd felt better if somebody had been man enough and walked up to me and told me what the situation was," Boldin said.

Despite missing one of their top receivers, the Cardinals (5-3) improved to 4-0 on the road.

And they didn't have to contend with Chicago's Tommie Harris. The three-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle slugged offensive guard Deuce Lutui in the head as they were on the ground on the game's first possession, resulting in his ejection, and the Bears quickly unraveled.

Particularly troubling to coach Lovie Smith was Harris' hit.

"I know the result," Smith said. "There's nothing Tommie can really tell me."

Lutui said he was "really shocked" by the hit and called it "such a surprise that it happened."

Harris did not make himself available to reporters after the game.

Cutler passed for 369 yards while completing 29 of 47 passes and was sacked four times.

The Bears have little time to regroup, with a Thursday night game at San Francisco.

Things weren't looking good for the Bears after Harris got tossed for slugging Lutui near the face after they ended up on the ground following a run play. They only got worse from there.

His 11-yard touchdown pass to Fitzgerald capped the opening drive, giving the Cardinals a 7-0 lead. The Bears quickly tied it thanks to two long passes by Cutler — a 42-yarder to Devin Hester and a 33-yard touchdown to Olsen — but the Cardinals wasted no time busting open this game.

Arizona responded with a 74-yard drive Warner finished with a 6-yard pass to Ben Patrick that made it 14-7.

Jaguars 24, Chiefs 21

The Jacksonville Jaguars are getting good at bouncing back from embarrassing losses.

David Garrard threw for 264 yards, including a 61-yard



Cardinals' quarterback Kurt Warner throws a pass in their 41-21 victory over the Bears. Warner threw for 261 and five touchdowns in the win.

touchdown pass to Mike Sims-Walker, and the Jaguars rebounded from a lopsided loss at Tennessee with a victory against Kansas City on Sunday.

Up and down all season, the Jaguars (4-4) responded in similar fashion following losses to Arizona and Seattle.

"There's only so much bouncing back you can do before there's no more bouncing to do," cornerback Rashean Mathis said. "It's something to hang your hat on, to know that we're going to fight, but at the same time we have to learn to be consistent."

Consistency hasn't been Jacksonville's forte. Coach Jack Del Rio ripped his team's defensive effort following a 30-13 loss at the Titans last week, calling it "insulting, ugly and embarrassing." He considered putting his players through live tackling drills this week, but settled for an intense, full-pads practice.

He also switched back to a 4-3 defensive scheme.

It worked, at least against Kansas City (1-7). Playing without suspended running back Larry Johnson, the Chiefs managed little offense until late in the fourth quarter.

"We brought a different atti-

tude to the game," Jaguars linebacker Clint Ingram said. "It's not a time for us to start beating ourselves on the chest and patting ourselves on the back. It's one game. It's good that we won it, but we've still got a lot of work to do and a lot of corrections to make and a lot of stuff to clean up."

Indeed. With left tackle Branden Albert and center Rudy Niswanger back in the lineup, Matt Cassel threw for 262 yards and two scores — both to newcomer Chris Chambers.

Claimed off waivers Tuesday from San Diego, Chambers caught a 54-yard TD pass with 2:32 to play. Placekicker Ryan Succop recovered an onside kick after it bounced off Atiyah Ellison, Cassel hooked up with Dwayne Bowe for 36 yards and then found Chambers near the sideline for a 5-yard score.

The Chiefs made the 2-point conversion, cutting the lead to 24-21 with a little more than a minute to play.

But Jaguars fullback Greg Jones recovered the ensuing onside kick, and Maurice Jones-Drew sealed the victory with a first-down run.

"I'm glad we didn't quit," said Chambers, who finished

with three catches for 70 yards. "We can build on this."

Cassel completed 23 of 39 passes, but was sacked three times. Bowe and Lance Long each finished with 74 yards receiving.

The Jaguars, though, refused to give the Chiefs much credit for the comeback.

"They were throwing the ball up, and a couple of receivers made some plays," Mathis said. "It wasn't like they were picking us apart or anything. It was just throwing Hail Marys down the field and they made some great grabs. That's nothing for us to be concerned about. When we had to get after them and put the game away, we did."

Until Cassel and Chambers connected late, punter Dustin Colquitt had the team's three top highlights. He had a 70-yard punt, a 59-yarder, and tackled Mathis by the dreadlocks after he returned a failed 56-yard field goal on the final play of the first half.

"Unfortunately, we weren't able to get into a rhythm early on," said Cassel, who passed for 135 yards on his final two TD drives. "The guys made some big plays. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough at the end. We have to just start early."

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NFL

Saints remain undefeated

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Drew Brees and the Saints' prolific offense never had to play from behind in their first five games.

Mastering the comeback in their last three has gotten New Orleans off to its best start in the franchise's 43-year history.

New Orleans moved to 8-0 on Sunday when Brees overcame two early turnovers to pass for 330 yards and a touchdown in a 30-20 victory over the Carolina Panthers.

"That's great. I mean, 1967 until now and we're the only (Saints) team to have done that," Brees said. "That's really special. I feel like we've got a special group of guys, a special team, and certainly we're not satisfied with just being 8-0. We have what it takes to just continue to win."

Starting with a favorable schedule during the next two weeks. The Saints play at St. Louis and Tampa Bay, who are a combined 2-14 this season, meaning New Orleans has a realistic chance to be 10-0 when New England — the only team to finish a regular season 16-0 — comes to the Louisiana Superdome the Monday night after Thanksgiving.

Before this season, the only 7-0 team New Orleans ever had was in 1991, a squad coached by Jim Mora and known for its defense.

The defense on the 2009 Saints gives up its share of yards, but has continued to make big plays at the right time.

While the Saints did not intercept a pass for the first time all season, their defense forced three turnovers on fumbles. The last produced New Orleans' seventh defensive touchdown of the season on Anthony Hargrove's strip, recovery and 1-yard return late in the fourth quarter.

Hargrove might have been down before advancing the ball, but the play started before the two-minute warning and Carolina had no timeouts, preventing a challenge.

DeAngelo Williams rushed for 149 yards and two TDs, and Carolina gained 182 yards on the ground. But it was Williams' fumble at his 1 that led to the clinching TD.

It was Carolina's (3-5) first loss in Louisiana since 2001 and quarterback Jake Delhomme's first loss in the Louisiana Superdome. The Panthers blew a 17-3 lead as the Saints improved to 5-0 at home this season.

"I'm encouraged with the fact that we've been able to win a few of these games and we haven't played our best football," Saints coach Sean Payton said. "I don't know we're paying a lot of attention to where this (record) at past teams. There hadn't been a real rich history here in regards to successful football."

The Saints have never been to a Super Bowl and have only been

to the playoffs six times. The way they're closing out games now, there's no telling how far they could go. New Orleans is outscoring opponents 91-18 in the fourth quarter.

"The more that you win games like this, the more confidence that you gain, the more that you feel like no matter what situation that you're in, you're going to be able to win the game," Brees said. "No matter what the deficit, no matter how bad things might have gone, you just feel like you're going to come back and you're going to do it."

After failing to score a touchdown in the first half for the first time all season, the Saints needed four plays to produce Pierre Thomas' 10-yard TD run to cut Carolina's lead to 17-13 to open the third quarter. Devery Henderson's 63-yard gain on a short slant highlighted the drive.

Carolina responded with a 19-play drive but had to settle for John Kasay's 25-yard field goal. Delhomme's third-down pass bounced off Williams' shoulder pads at the goal line.

"It was very disappointing. We came very close to getting the touchdown with that pass to DeAngelo," Delhomme said. "That would have been huge, making it 24-13."

Instead, New Orleans tied it at 20 on Robert Meachem's leaping catch and run for a 54-yard score.

On their next possession, the Saints started at their 2 and drove 76 yards in 13 plays to go ahead 23-20 on John Carney's 40-yard field goal with 4:36 left.

Will Smith, who had two sacks, stripped Delhomme on fourth down, and Hargrove recovered to end Carolina's next series. Four plays later, Saints rookie Malcolm Jenkins dove to stop Thomas Morstead's punt from going into the end zone, setting up Hargrove's second fumble recovery in less than a minute.

Before that stretch, Hargrove, suspended all of 2008 for NFL substance abuse violations, hadn't had a fumble recovery since 2005.

Carolina led 14-0 on Williams' TD runs of 66 and 7 yards, both of which came before the Saints made a first down.

The second TD came after Brees was sacked and stripped by Tyler Brayton, and Jon Beason recovered on the Saints 11. The Panthers went up 17-3 on Kasay's 32-yard field goal, set up by Chris Gamble's interception.

Patriots 27, Dolphins 17

The Miami Dolphins had just spent more than 10 minutes marching to a wildcat touchdown when Randy Moss used one stiff-arm to wipe out their lead.

Moss sped to a 71-yard touchdown after grabbing a short pass over the middle and shoving rookie cornerback Vontae Davis out of his way as the New England Patriots tightened their grip on the AFC East with a win

Sunday.

"That's like getting stabbed in the heart right there," Patriots guard Logan Mankins said. "You grind it out for like 10 minutes and finally score, and then in like a minute and a half we come right back."

The touchdown — and a 2-point conversion connection between Tom Brady and Moss — put the Patriots ahead 24-17 with 3:15 left in the third quarter, and the Dolphins failed to get inside the New England 40-yard line after that.

"It was tough for us. The offense had just come off of a great drive," Miami linebacker Jason Taylor said, "but Randy Moss made a play ... what he's done for a million years."

He did it twice Sunday.

On the Patriots' second possession, Moss made a one-handed catch against Davis for a 36-yard gain to the 1-yard line. Laurence Maroney ran for the touchdown on the next play, putting New England ahead 7-3.

"That's Randy Moss," said Davis, who also intercepted Brady's pass toward Moss on the Patriots' first series. "He's going to make his plays and I just tried to limit him the best I could."



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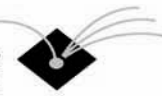
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ND SWIMMING

Irish fall to Boilermakers

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

Both the Irish men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams fell to Purdue Friday at Purdue’s Boilermaker Aquatic Center, but first-place performances from both teams showed the season has plenty of potential.

“In terms of progress, we have made much of it in working towards our end goal,” men’s coach Tim Welsh said. “After analyzing where we were last year, in comparison to where we are this year, we are moving forward.”

The men were defeated, 195-105, with a large portion of the points they lost from a false start penalty of 0.01 seconds during one of the relay events. Purdue’s electronic system for measuring the time that swimmers leave the side of the pool caught the error, and the mistake is

an area that Welsh hopes to correct in practices this week before the Irish meet up with Big East rival Pittsburgh this weekend.

Notable performances by male Irish swimmers include senior John Lytle’s first-place finishes in both the 100-meter freestyle (45.75) and 200-meter freestyle (1:40.32) events, and sophomore Petar Petrovic’s wins in both the 100-meter backstroke (50.33) and 200-meter backstroke (1:51.27) events.

“[Purdue is] superb and have been much higher ranked than us,” Welsh said. “They might be the fastest team we will see in a dual meet this whole season, and the fastest team we will see until the Ohio State Invitational.”

The women were defeated 179-121.

“[Purdue] proved that they are a very strong team with a great deal of depth, especially in the freestyle events,” senior captain

Megan Farrell said. “The girls raced very well on Friday and have definitely made some big time drops in the past year.”

Junior Katie Casey took first in both the 100 and 200-meter butterfly events, and junior Samantha Maxwell finished first in the 100 and 200-meter breaststroke events. Freshman Kim Holden also earned a top finish for the Irish in the 200-meter backstroke competition.

“Race plans and strategies were tested at this meet, and now we can critique our strategies and make adjustments to stroke technique before we compete again,” Farrell said.

Next up for the Irish men is a dual meet at Pittsburgh Friday, and the women will attend the Hoosierland Invitational in Bloomington, Ind. on Nov. 20.

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

MEN’S TENNIS

ND places five on Tourney team

By KATELYN GRABERAK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame finished up its final fall matches Sunday in Virginia, placing five of their players on the All-Tournament team at the William and Mary Invitational.

The Irish were able to post a 21-4 mark in singles play against players from William and Mary, Maryland and the College of Charleston.

Three of Notre Dame’s singles players, junior David Anderson, sophomore Niall Fitzgerald and freshman Blas Moros, finished with 4-0 records in singles players.

“I have seen great strides in Blas Moros and his ability to compact the load in his forehand, as well as his attacking game,” Irish coach Bobby

Bayliss said. “David Anderson has overcome a painful back issue and is regaining his ability to serve big.”

Anderson, Moros, Michael Moore, Dan Stahl and Sam Keeton all made the All-Tournament team for the Irish.

This was Fitzgerald’s only appearance of the fall season for the Irish and he was able to come out on the winning end, playing in Flight One singles and defeating Sergio Wyss of Maryland by a score of 6-4, 6-4 Sunday to round out his tournament play.

Anderson defeated Wyss Saturday only dropping four games total in the match.

Keeton dropped his match to John Collins of Maryland Saturday, winning only three games, but rebounded to defeat Kyle Parker of the College of Charleston Sunday

by a score of 6-3, 6-2.

Moore fought hard against William and Mary’s No. 61 Keziel Juneau but dropped the match 10-3 in the third-set super tie breaker on the final day of play.

Stahl and Ftizgerald teamed up in doubles for the Irish on the weekend, playing in the No. 1 doubles flight and posting a 4-0 record in the tournament.

Bayliss said the Irish doubles play has been spotty this fall and it is an area the team will try to address before the spring season.

“We will go into our NCAA mandated ‘offseason,’ so all of what we do outside of strength and conditioning work will be either individual skill instruction or any competitive things that are purely team initiated,” Bayliss said. “My hope is that some of the changes we have made in our players’ games will become more comfortable over time. We will need to hit the ground running when we come back in January, as we host Virginia that first weekend. They were number one most of last year. Most of the guys in key playing positions will be underclassmen and we need to see some maturity from them by January.”

The Irish are now finished with their fall season until they host William and Mary on Jan. 22 to open their spring season.

Contact Katelyn Graberak at kgrab01@saintmarys.edu

NFL

Austin uses one catch to burn Philadelphia

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Miles Austin punctuated his touchdown catch by emphatically firing the ball into the stands.

Take that, Philadelphia.

Tony Romo threw a 49-yard TD pass to Austin midway through the fourth quarter and the Dallas Cowboys beat the Eagles 20-16 Sunday night in the 100th meeting between the division rivals.

On the final day of the 2008 regular season, the Eagles dominated Dallas 44-6 in a do-or-die game for both teams. Philadelphia earned a wild-card berth with that victory, won two playoff contests on the road and advanced to the NFC championship game, losing at Arizona.

The Cowboys (6-2) spent the whole offseason thinking about that horrendous ending. They got their revenge and took over sole possession of first place in the NFC East with their fourth straight victory.

“Our last loss against them really motivated us to come out and play good,” Cowboys linebacker DeMarcus Ware said.

The Eagles fell to 5-3 and the New York Giants are 5-4 after a 5-0 start.

Romo finished 21 of 34 for 307 yards, one TD and one interception.

“We executed,” Romo said. “I think the coaches put together a good plan. You just have to keep fighting and getting better.”

Donovan McNabb was shaky after a strong performance in a 40-17 rout of the Giants last week. McNabb threw for 227 yards, one TD and was intercepted twice for the first time this season.

“We have to eliminate mistakes,” McNabb said.

The Cowboys began their go-ahead drive after stopping McNabb on fourth-and-inches at their 45. The Eagles challenged, but a replay upheld the original spot.

On third-and-14, Romo fooled Sheldon Brown with a pump-fake and hit a wide-open Austin down the left sideline to give Dallas a 20-13 lead.

“I gave them a little pump,” Romo said. “I thought they’d been jumping it a little and they went for it.”

Austin leads the Cowboys with seven TD catches, three fewer than Terrell Owens had last season. Unlike T.O., Austin only gives defenses headaches instead of his QB.

“I made sure I caught it first,” Austin said of his only reception in the game. “A bunch of the guys were making fun of me because I took so long to see it in my hands.”

David Akers kicked a 52-yard field goal to cut it to 20-16, but

the Eagles never got the ball back. The Cowboys maintained possession the final 4:27.

“I thought we could hold them, get the ball back and win the game,” Eagles coach Andy Reid said.

Trailing 10-6, the Eagles seemingly went ahead when Ellis Hobbs returned the second-half kickoff 96 yards for a score. But a holding call on Moise Fokou nullified the TD.

No matter, McNabb drove Philadelphia 77 yards for the go-ahead score.

LeSean McCoy turned a short pass into a 45-yard gain. One play later, McNabb escaped the rush and found Brent Celek in the corner of the end zone to put Philadelphia ahead 13-10.

On Dallas’ ensuing possession, Brown intercepted Romo’s off-target pass to Jason Witten and returned it 54 yards. An illegal block by Fokou negated the return to the Cowboys 35, and the Eagles’ drive stalled near midfield after starting at their 12.

Mike Jenkins intercepted McNabb to set up Nick Folk ‘s tying 33-yard field goal 8 seconds into the fourth quarter.

Gerald Sensabaugh ‘s interception on Philadelphia’s first possession ended McNabb’s streak of 118 straight passes without a pick. McNabb’s pass on third-and-5 to a wide-open Jeremy Maclin hit him in the hands and bounced to Sensabaugh.

Six plays later, Tashard Choice ran in from the 2 after taking a shotgun snap with Romo lined up wide to the right. Romo completed two third-down passes to keep the drive going, including a 21-yard gain to Kevin Ogletree on third-and-9.

Romo tossed a 64-yard catch-and-run pass to Patrick Crayton late in the second quarter to set up Folk’s 22-yard field goal that made it 10-6. Tracy White made a diving, TD-saving tackle to trip up Crayton.

Akers kicked a 45-yard field goal early in the second quarter to put the Eagles on the board. He nailed a 48-yarder late in the quarter to cut it to 7-6.

The Eagles played without star running back Brian Westbrook for the second straight game because of a concussion and strongside linebacker Chris Gocong sat out with hamstring and quad injuries. Fokou, a seventh-round pick, made his first start in Gocong’s place.

Westbrook was expected to play, but he started experiencing symptoms of a mild headache on Friday. Westbrook then underwent more tests and the Eagles held him out as a precaution. McCoy started for Westbrook.

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Quincy

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The 33 3-pointers the Irish took were a lot, Hansbrough said, but most of them were open looks.

“I would say 80 percent of those are just from penetrating and kicking, wide open looks,” he said. “You can’t tell them to turn it down.”

Harangody decided to heave it up often Friday night, and his third 3-pointer gave Notre Dame a 52-31 lead with 14:12 left.

The Hawks pulled within 16 with help from Burke’s 3-pointer, but Hansbrough scored four points in less than a minute and helped push the Irish ahead by 21 with 6:15 left.

With 4:20 remaining, Jackson found junior forward Carleton Scott for a transition alley-oop that revitalized the Joyce Center and gave Notre Dame a 69-47 lead.

Freshman forward Jack Cooley threw back a layup that went in as time expired, capping the success of the night for Notre Dame.

Harangody said the Irish looked like a completely different team than the one that showed up on Nov. 1, but the team knows they still have work to do before the season starts.

“I still think we’re a better ball movement team than we’ve shown,” Hansbrough said.

“Absolutely.”

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Alaska

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made the difference in the game, especially in the third period to hold our lead. The goals that he gave up — the first was kind of a fluky bounce, almost an impossible shot to stop. The second goal could have probably been defended better by our defense. He was probably a little out of position, but the defense should been tighter.”

Christiaan Minella, Ryan Thang and Kyle Lawson notched power play goals in Friday’s victory, with Lawson scoring the game-winner with less than three minutes to play in the second period.

The power play has been the saving grace for Notre Dame’s inconsistent even-strength offense, Jackson said.

Of Notre Dame’s 23 goals this season, only 10 have come at even strength. The Irish have notched 12 power play goals and one shorthanded goal.

“The good thing for us is we’re having two different units being productive,” Jackson said. “That’s what we’ve been striving for over the last three or four years, to have more than just one unit. There’s certain nights that a top unit just gets shut down, and right now, having two playing well is really helping us.”

The power play was blanked Saturday, as junior center Ben Ryan’s second-period goal was the only Irish tally. Ryan extended his career-best point streak to seven in the loss.

“I’m hoping we bust out of this,” Jackson said. “We have too many players who have the potential to score goals, and unfortunately we’re just not fulfilling that right now. Some guys have started off okay, and it’s just a matter of getting other guys who have a history of being productive, to get them going and shooting the puck with a little more confidence.”

The uncertainty surrounding Notre Dame is not limited to the Irish offense. The Irish are still searching for the answer to their goaltending question, as Jackson said Johnson played well this weekend. Both Johnson and junior Brad Phillips, who was expected to be Notre Dame’s No. 1 goaltender, have the tools but need to show more consistency to earn the top spot, Jackson said.

“I still think as time progresses, Brad is going to get better. I want to see him grow,” Jackson said. “I want to go into the second half of the season with a pretty good idea who our starter’s going to be. And maybe it’ll be two guys.”

For now, though, Johnson has played his way into the conversation — and into the net.

“We have to recognize, he’s a freshman, too,” Jackson said. “I’m gaining a lot of confidence in him right now. I like his character and I like how he competes. He’s really put himself in the mix to be the number one guy, and it’s just a matter of whether Brad can get his confidence back up to a high enough level.”

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ND Women’s Tennis

Krisik takes first place at WMU singles event

Observer Staff Report

In the final weekend of fall competition, senior Kali Krisik took home the singles championship at the Western Michigan Invitational after defeating Louisville’s Mandy Brown, 6-3, 6-4, Sunday in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Krisik completed an undefeated weekend in singles competition, dropping just one set on her way to capturing the title.

Junior Kristen Rafael was the only other Irish athlete to compete at Western Michigan this weekend, falling in the third

round of singles competition at the hands of Louisville’s Sarah Miller, 6-2, 7-5 (5).

In doubles competition, the duo knocked off opponents from Louisville in the first round before losing to Western Michigan’s Emily Dudzik and Jill Pastunink, 8-6.

At the ITA National Indoor Championships, sophomore Kristy Frilling fell to No. 16 Venise Chan, 7-5, 6-3, in the second round Friday.

This weekend concludes the fall schedule for the Irish who will resume play when they take on Iowa on Jan. 23.

Gold

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day of first-class bouts, the Irish overcame the odds yet again.

“A gold medal is always very hard to get,” Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. “We had more than 150 of the best fencers from all over the continent in the junior age category coming to fight, so it’s very hard to get to the finals. But gold medal, you have to prove that you are the best at that time, and two gold medals means a lot for us.”

Meinhardt, the youngest male U.S. Olympian in the Beijing Olympics, is used to playing in front of a big crowd against the best in the world. Earlier this year Meinhardt earned a silver medal at the 2009 Senior

Pan American Zonal Championships in El Salvador.

“Experience in the Olympic games shows two things,” Bednarski said. “First, it shows that you are a good defender who can play at the highest level of professional fencing. Second, it shows that you can fight on the big stage in front of all the cameras. This will bring calm to a young team that can easily get nervous.”

Sophomore Enzo Castellani also made it to the final eight in the foil before falling to Meinhardt in the semifinals, finishing with a bronze medal.

Hurley continued her dominance of junior competition in the epee, adding another gold medal to a growing list of accomplishments.

Hurley earned a medal on the international stage earlier this year, taking home the

gold in the Zonal Championships in El Salvador.

Another sophomore, Radmila Sarkisova, reached the finals in the women’s foil before finishing seventh overall.

“We are competing individually in the fall semester to build up our position,” Bednarski said. “It was important to show that we still have ambitions to fence against other colleges. This competition is national team tryouts for all fencers, so it’s even stronger than the NCAA Tournament.”

The Irish will know their collegiate ranking following the current season of individual bouts. Until then, they will have to settle for medaling in international competition.

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ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish take two to reach 12

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame remained undefeated in conference play by beating Marquette Friday and Syracuse Sunday, running the team’s winning streak to 12 straight conference matches.

“We’re pleased with the character of the team and coming back strong after losing the first set [in both matches],” Irish coach Debbie Brown said. “We played much better in the second, third and fourth sets and came back to win.”

Notre Dame (18-4, 12-0 Big East) battled Marquette (16-12, 5-8) through 30 ties and 13 lead changes to win the match 3-1 (21-25, 2-18, 26-24, 25-13) in Milwaukee.

“Marquette played really well and set it up well in the first set,” Brown said. “I think we bring out the best in them, but were able to wear them down.”

Notre Dame’s blocking and kills have given them an advantage throughout the season, and once again aided in closing out Marquette. Senior outside hitter Serinity Phillips and freshman middle blocker Hilary Eppink each had eight blocks. Sophomore libero Frenchy Silva led all players with 21 digs while sophomore outside hitter Kristen Dealy added 15 and senior setter Jamel Nicholas 12.

Notre Dame was held to a season-low 15 points in the first set of its match at Syracuse Sunday, but the Irish rallied to sweep the Orange (19-10, 8-5) in the remaining sets for a 3-1 victory (15-25, 25-21, 25-17, 25-19) and hold onto their title as the lone undefeated team in the Big East conference.

“Syracuse played well in the first set and we didn’t,” Brown said. “But we were able to come back and get in a better rhythm.”

The Orange led the first set from the start, leading the Irish 8-4 until a kill from Sciacca helped bring it to 9-7, but it wasn’t enough to match Syracuse’s leading blocker Sarah Morton. Morton, who also leads the

nation in rejections, finished the day with 10 kills and 12 blocks, and only eight errors on 24 swings.

Sciacca’s kills once again gave the Irish the jump they needed in the beginning of the second set to take the lead.

After four lead changes, Kaelin helped close the set with a kill as part of a 5-0 Irish streak.

Late kills from Dealy secured the third set for Notre Dame, and she also started the fourth set off strong with a kill and an ace. Syracuse led at 21-18, but successful kills from Kaelin closed out the match in Notre Dame’s favor.

“In both situations, it was a strong team effort,” Brown said. “We had people come off the bench in both matches and have them do what we needed them to do. This

year we’re a lot more experienced, poised, and confident. It was just determination and consistent playing to win.”

The Irish return home to finish the regular season before the Big East championship on Nov. 20-22 at Louisville.

They will take on Georgetown at 7 p.m. Friday and South Florida at 2 p.m. Sunday at Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center.

“We still have another weekend in front of us, and have two more matches before [the Big East tournament] and we know that’ll be a challenge as well,” Brown said. “We set out a goal as a team to be undefeated in the regular season and are really motivated as well.”

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SIEMENS

Bulls

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Clark said. “We’ll get Louisville now, and hopefully the winner of St. John’s and Providence, so hopefully we’ll get two more games before they make that decision.”

The Irish forced overtime by overcoming a two-goal deficit. Notre Dame finally tied the game with seven minutes left when a corner off the boot of freshman midfielder Dillon Powers found the head of sophomore defenseman Aaron Maund, who put it off the left post and into the back of the net, tying the game 2-2.

After a scoreless overtime period, the Irish were finally able to earn the win on penalty kicks, as all five of their shooters were able to convert. The game came down to a final shot from South Florida’s Sebastian Thuriere, but he hit the top crossbar of the net and the Irish were able to advance.

The game started off disastrously for the Irish, as the rust of a week-long layoff showed when the Irish found themselves in a hole early.

South Florida’s first goal came after only 2:34 had elapsed from the kickoff. A Bulls run had been stopped by the Irish central defense, but the ball was cleared weakly and South Florida senior midfielder Jorge Mora collected the ball at the top of the 18-yard box and blew a shot past senior goalkeeper Philip Tuttle to put the Bulls up 1-0.

“We started so slowly, I don’t know what was wrong,” Clark said. “Sometimes I think that is one of the hard things, after you have not played for a week and it’s a long football weekend. I think the guys were a little slow starting.”

Clark said the first goal was a wakeup call for his team, but things had to get worse before they could get better for the Irish, as a South Florida cross from freshman forward Hasani Sinclair found Thuriere’s head right in front of the goal to give the Bulls a 2-0 advantage. The advantage seemed to be a significant one for South Florida, as the Bulls have only given up 13 goals on the year.

“After the first goal we got some life, and after the second goal there was no question we were really into the game,” Clark said.

Despite the early deficit, the Irish then took over the game, starting with a goal of their own with the half nearing a close. Senior midfielder Michael Thomas got a cross into the box to Bright Dike. Dike was able to corral the ball and get a shot off into the back of the net for his team-leading 10th goal of the season.

“It was really important that we got one goal back before halftime and put some pressure on them,” Clark said.

After that goal, the pressure seemed to really get to South Florida, as one of their senior leaders, midfielder Francisco Aristeguieta, made a costly mistake as he earned his second booking with only two minutes left in the first half and got ejected from the game, forcing the Bulls to play the second half a man down. After that booking the Bulls really tried to crowd their defensive third and keep the Irish from getting good scoring chances.

“Good marks to [South Florida],” Clark said. “They got a man sent off, they sucked up a lot of pressure and they defended very well. They have a lot of good players.”

Once they had the man advantage, the Irish used the opportunity to push their midfield and defense forward, putting the pressure on the South Florida defense. The second-half flurry saw the

Irish gain a 21-9 advantage in shots and a 10-3 advantage in corner kicks.

“For all our huffing and puffing, and 21 shots, their goalie only had to make two saves,” Clark said. “We need to make our shots count. We got shots, but maybe we need to get more quality shots.”

Notre Dame’s shots counted enough, as Maund’s goal tied the game, and the teams went to an extra period.

Overtime saw the Irish again dominate possession and the scoring chances, but they were not able to make a breakthrough and get the win before penalty kicks. Dike was controversially taken down in the box in the first overtime, but no call was forthcoming.

“Dike had a couple of shots at penalty kicks,” Clark said. “It doesn’t matter what I think anyway, it is what the referee thinks. If you asked someone in a Notre Dame uniform on they would have seen it as a penalty kick. If you asked South Florida they probably would have seen it differently.”

Notre Dame will next play this Friday in the Big East semifinals against Louisville in West Virginia.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

NCAA

continued from page 24

Sophomore defender Jessica Schuveiller headed in a corner kick from junior forward Rose Augustin for the game winner. Schuveiller has scored three goals in her two years with the Irish — all three have been the game winners, including last year’s NCAA Quarterfinal game.

“You want players that when things get tight are willing to take some chances, and [Schuveiller] is one of those kids,” Waldrum said. “She is just one of those players with that DNA. She is made that way.”

Schuveiller’s goal was set up by junior midfielder Lauren Fowlkes’ who had a first half goal off of Augustin’s first assist for the day. Junior goaltender Nikki Weiss allowed one goal in the game, while the Red Storm (13-6-1, 6-4-1) attempted only five shots.

Notre Dame then faced Marquette (15-5-2, 7-2-2) with a championship on the line. Waldrum said the Golden Eagles presented one of Notre Dame’s tougher challenges in the conference.

Notre Dame struck first and last in the game, as senior midfielder Amanda Clark gave the Irish a 1-0 lead in the first half, and junior forward Erica Iantorno scored the game winner with 20 minutes left.

“The games are going to be close from here on out. ... You have to learn to win the close ones,” Waldrum said. “We’ve had to win close games most of the year. I think that has really prepared us for this time, for the Big East tournament, and for the NCAAAs.”

Waldrum said a big part of winning close games at this time of year is solid goaltending, and despite her postseason inexperience, Weiss fulfilled the role this weekend.

“I was really pleased with Nikki,” he said. “I wasn’t happy about the goal she gave up against Marquette. But I think for the most part she handled the weekend every bit as much as she handled the last month of the season. She was very composed.”

The NCAA Tournament Selection Show is tonight at 8 p.m. on ESPNEWS, and Waldrum was not shy about his hopes for the Irish.

“We’re hoping to slip into one

of those top four seeds, which would mean we’d be at home all the way through to the Final Four,” he said. “I think it’ll be close. We could fit anywhere in that four, five, or six spot.”

Playing at home will be pivotal for the Irish he said, as fan support could prove to be a deciding factor in the postseason.

“This is the time we really need the fans to come out. We know we let the fans down early in the year with our performance against North Carolina, but this is a completely different team now. We have reeled off 15 games in a row, and this is the time of year we really need the students and fans to come out and support us.”

- Notes:
- ◆ Lauren Fowlkes was named the Big East Tournament’s Most Outstanding Offensive Performer.
 - ◆ Jessica Schuveiller claimed Most Outstanding Defensive Performer honors.
 - ◆ Amanda Clark, Courtney Barg, Jessica Schuveiller, Lauren Fowlkes and Nikki Weiss were all named to the Big East All-Tournament Team.

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ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Tourney Time

Title over weekend helps NCAA resume

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Not only did No. 4 Notre Dame won its 11th Big East Tournament with a 2-1 victory over Marquette Sunday, but the Irish also made a strong statement to the NCAA about where they deserve to be seeded in the NCAA Tournament beginning Friday.

"Even more than winning the tournament and that championship, the focus was winning it so we could get ourselves in position to get the highest seed possible in the NCAA Tournament," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "Now we'll wait to see what the NCAA committee does tomorrow night on the selection."

The Irish (17-3-1, 10-0-1 Big East) beat St. John's 2-1 with a golden goal in overtime Friday.

see NCAA/page 22



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Sophomore defender Jessica Schuveiller dribbles the ball away from two South Florida attackers in the Irish 5-0 victory on Nov. 1 in the Big East tournament quarterfinals.

FENCING

ND earns two golds at Juniors

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

The Irish proved to the fencing world once again that they are not a team to be overlooked on the strip heading into intercollegiate play. Sophomores Courtney Hurley and Gerek Meinhardt finished the USFA NAC Juniors with a pair of gold medals Friday, raising their individual international rankings even further.

Held in Kansas City, the North American Cup brings together the continent's most talented fencers to determine the best individual junior fencers in the sabre, epee, and foil divisions. Following a

see GOLD/page 20

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Harangody and Hansbrough lead Notre Dame to victory

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Friday's exhibition game lacked eye-catching stats, but had the big plays — last-second tip-ins and alley-oops — and, most importantly, resulted in a win.

Senior forward Luke Harangody had 17 points and 11 rebounds during Notre Dame's 75-54 win over Quincy, Notre Dame's last exhibition game before it opens regular-season play in a week.

Senior guard Ben Hansbrough scored 14 points and led the team with 34 minutes. He struggled to make shots to start the game, but got better as time went on.

"I told him, just slow down a little bit," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "Those are great shots, keep taking them."

Harangody said he felt the team moved the ball better than during its last game, a 70-54 win over Lewis at the Joyce Center on Nov. 1.

"We were a lot more balanced tonight. We were mov-

ing the ball out there," he said.

The Irish had 18 assists and 10 turnovers, a stat Brey was happy about.

"I think we were a little better with our decision making and a little slower in our offense and that helped us," Brey said.

Senior guard Tory Jackson and junior forward Tyrone Nash each had 11 points.

Senior forward Billy Baptist led the Hawks with 14 points and junior center Justin Brock added 11. Junior guard Tyler Burke went 3-of-9 from

3-point range and finished with nine points.

The Irish and Hawks traded leads until junior forward Tim Abromaitis drew a foul as he sank a layup, and he pushed the Irish lead to 15-11 with 11:49 left in the half when he made the free throw.

Notre Dame scored eight straight points, the final four in transition and off of turnovers, during a two-minute stretch in the first half. Abromaitis capped the run with a layup after a Hansbrough steal to make the score 28-17 with 7:03 left.

Hayes made a 3, but then Notre Dame put together another run, this time 10 points, to take a 38-20 lead with 2:40 left in the half.

The Irish started the second half just as hot, and Hansbrough's 3-pointer with 16:35 left gave Notre Dame a 20-point lead.

"I was going through a shooting slump, but coach Brey was very good at telling me, 'Hey keep shooting you'll make the next one,'" Hansbrough said.

see QUINCY/page 20

MEN'S SOCCER

Irish win in tense shootout

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's Big East quarterfinal match-up with No. 13 South Florida went down to the wire once again, as the game reached the end of overtime tied 2-2, and the Irish advanced on penalty kicks (5-4) into the semifinals.

"This team comes to attack," Irish coach Bobby Clark said. "We outshoot and we out-corner every team."

The game only counted as a tie for the official NCAA records, but hopefully that will be enough to catapult the Irish in the NCAA tournament.

"We'll still hopefully get another couple of games in the Big East,"

see BULLS/page 22



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish freshman Dillon Powers acrobatically kicks the ball away from a South Florida defender during Notre Dame's victory Sunday.

HOCKEY

Offensive struggles lead to split in Alaska

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Writer

No. 9 Notre Dame split a pair of conference games at No. 13 Alaska over the weekend, handing the Nanooks their first loss of the season Friday, 3-2, before falling 3-1 Saturday night in Fairbanks.

"I actually thought we played a better game on Saturday," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "Friday, even though we won the game, I thought we relied on [freshman goaltender] Mike Johnson in goal way too much. We gave them a lot of opportunities off of transition

and didn't do a good job with the puck. We were fortunate to score on the power play a couple times and got great goaltending, especially in the third period."

Johnson, making the first back-to-back starts of his career, gave Notre Dame (5-4-1, 2-1-1 CCHA) a chance to win Saturday, but the Nanooks (6-1-1, 3-1-1-0) scored three times in the final period to erase a 1-0 Irish advantage. Johnson made 35 saves Friday and 21 Saturday.

"I thought Mike played exceptional on Friday night," Jackson said. "I think he

see ALASKA/page 20